Why Merci surrendered

Her own people set to testify, says Tupas

By Nestor P. Burgos Jr.
Inquirer Visayas

ILOILO CITY—The prospect of her own people testifying against her could have finally pushed Ombudsman Merceditas Gutierrez to quit, the chair of the 11-member impeachment prosecution panel said yesterday.

Iloilo Rep. Niel Tupas Jr. said the panel had been considering at least seven senior officials and employees of the Office of the Ombudsman to testify as Gutierrez's impeachment trial that would have started after the Senate resumes session on May 9.

"They felt that it is the right time for them to come out and tell the truth. They have vital insider information that would have been explosive," Tupas told the Inquirer in a phone interview.

The lawmaker said that the seven included a ranking official who had expressed willingness to testify, and that the others were seeking assurance of their families' security if they took the witness stand.

"The senior official would have been a surprise witness because of the official's rank," said Tupas, who chairs the House committee on justice that heard the impeachment complaints against Gutierrez.

He declined to name the potential witnesses for their own security but said their testimonies would have been crucial in proving that Gutierrez had deliberately blocked the inquiry into the 47.26-million fertilizer fund scam.

The final vote said to have been directed in the election campaign

MALACAÑANG, P. 2

Search on for Bukidnon + Successor: con onto Garcia pina-bangalo | A21

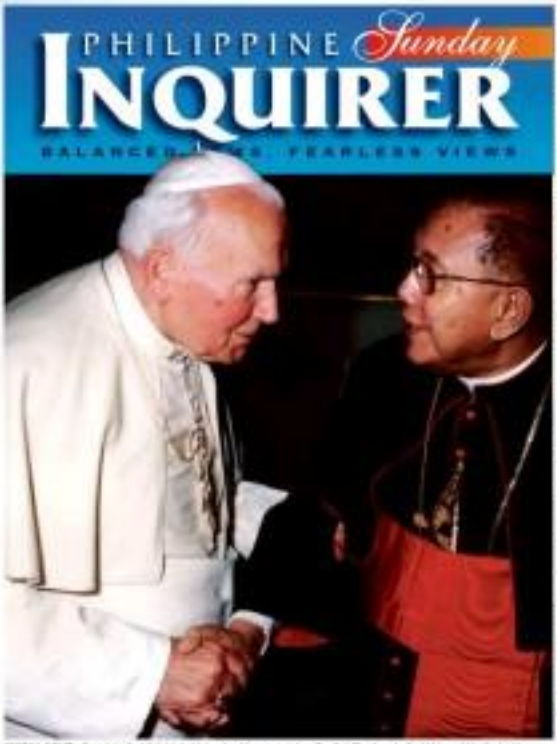
RSVP: Leftists say no; P-Noy to break bread with moderate labor

By Christine O. Avendaño, Philip C. Tawes and Allan Nawal, Inquirer Mindanao

THE INVITATION also went to the militants but was declined as President Aquino will be having breakfast only with the more moderate labor groups today to celebrate Labor Day during which he will announce measures designed to help Filipinos cope with high oil and food prices.

Labor Secretary Rosalinda Baldoz and Budget Secretary Florencio Abad declined to reveal what these measures will be, saying they did not want to preempt Mr. Aquino.

BIPP, P. A2



SPECIAL BOND Pope John Paul II tightly holds hands with son-in-law Cardinal Sin, then the Archbishop of Manila, in this moment in the Vatican in 1996. The deep ties that bound the two prelates are well known to the Filipino faithful. AP, REUTERS, JEG VILLAFUERTE

Pope's words in Legazpi: Be proud of manual labor

By Florida G. Batitinano
Inquirer Southern Luzon

THE LATE Pope John Paul II had a special spot in his heart for laborers and farmers.

In fact, when the Pope visited Legazpi City on Feb. 21, 1981, he had a special message for them, according to retired Msgr. Honesto "Father Dam" Montiola.

"Do not be ashamed of your work. Be proud of manual labor," John Paul II said.

Father Dam never fails to quote this when he recounts the three encounters he had with the late Pope—all whose beatification at the Vatican today has been much awaited by the countless faithful who adore him.

John Paul II, who headed the Catholic Church for 27 years until his death on April 2, 2005, always placed a premium on the role of workers.

In his homily for the Jubilee of Workers on May 1, 2000, he prayed: "Lord, bless us and strengthen the work of our hands!"

The homily (available on the Internet, courtesy of the Catholic Information Network) reflects on the hidden life of Jesus in Nazareth where He spent 30 years of his earthly life.

"With His silent diligence in Joseph's workshop, Jesus gave the highest proof of the dignity of work. Today's Gospel incidents bear the residents of Nazareth, the fellow villagers, welcomed Him with surprise, asking one another: 'Where did this man get the wisdom and these mighty works? Is not this the carpenter's son?' (Mt. 13:54-55)," John Paul II said.

He said the Son of God did not disdain to be called a "carpenter" and did not want to be spared the

POPE'S LIFE

John Paul suffering featured in beatification rites

VATICAN CITY—Pope John Paul II's own suffering is being highlighted in his beatification, with aides testifying about his long battle with Parkinson's disease.

John Paul II's coffin was carried out of its resting place in a Vatican crypt on Friday as tens of thousands of pilgrims began gathering in Rome for the late Pope's beatification ceremony.

Vatican Secretary of State Tarcisio Bertone and Erzbischof Archbishop Stanislaw Dziwisz, John Paul's former personal secretary, held a brief ceremony by the coffin before it was carried in front of St. Peter's tomb a few steps away.

The coffin will be brought into St. Peter's Basilica today for the ceremony that will put the Polish-born Pope one step from sainthood and pilgrims will be able to file past it afterwards to pay their respects.

A pitial of John Paul's blood, taken during the last days of his illness at the end of a pontificate that reinvigorated the Roman Catholic Church and helped defeat Communism in Eastern Europe, will also be put on show for adoration.

Parents honoring John Paul's memory with his name have put up all over Rome ahead of the ceremony which was to have been preceded on Saturday by a Mass prayer vigil to the Divine Mercy, an ancient Roman arena in the city center.

BEATIFICATION TIMETABLE | A3

One for Shakespeare, Cecil B. DeMille and the fascinator

By Margie David Collins, Correspondent

WHAT, PRAY, is the cure for royal wedding fever? Are you not sick and tired of it all yet? Were there any clichés left unsaid? Was there a dry eye in your house? Ace Peters and Princess William, awestruck hosts to exhaustion and panoply of a very long, big day, dropping tightly in each other's embrace right now?

At Catherine made her regal way down the august nave of Westminster Abbey, did you not fear for her father who looked as if he might burst into tears and scamper back to their home in Bucklebury, as he sighted for the first time the awesome makings of crowned heads and Britain's social and political hierarchy? As it suddenly dawned on him what his daughter was getting herself into?

And didn't she make a fabulously beautiful bride, elegant in a combination of lace, ivory white satin gazar and an 0.6 A-carat that showed off her coveted, subtle figure? In the end, 26-year-old Sarah Burton, creative director of the House of Alexander McQueen, did not disappoint. It is a dress with a sense of occasion and history of traditions wrecked to modernity, with the artistic flourish and signature of the troubled 40-year-old designer who killed himself last year.

While eyes were rained on Catherine, some were furtively darting to wants Pippa, her sister and chief

SHE FOR HER

Why am I being retired? Why do we still use 65 as retirement age?

By Clarita Carlos

Editor's Note: The author is a UP professor emeritus, a former president of the National Defense College of the Philippines and most sought after commentator on current events, particularly concerning military affairs.

COMMENTARY

I AM SO many weeks from mandatory retirement from the University of the Philippines (UP), where I have taught since 1967. That while ago to 44 years of passionate teaching and research and thousands of students whose names and faces now escape me.

I have mixed feelings about being put to pasture by the university because I have reached the magic number of 65: valedictorian years. I have often treated to my students that a number must have an empirical referent, a story for it to have a meaning.

So, why 65 years? This was set as the retire-

MAY AM I, A13

LIFESTYLE

- **Best** summer adventure spots and foodie haven's
- **Face-Off** Cebu crowd didn't miss out on Kate-Wills wedding

ENTERTAINMENT

- **Charice** could be 'Saigon'-bound
- **Meet** the 1st Pinoy to cover Nickelodeon's Kids' Choice Awards in US

NEWS

- **Gadhafi** offers ceasefire but won't quit

SM

- **Home** cooking is best in Erap's kitchen
- **Hot sun,** cool reads: 31 books reviewed
- **11 great** little bookstores where reading can be sheer pleasure

WEATHER FORECAST

Second FRONTPAGE

6/27 DIGIT
1 4
1 17
21 30
6 8 2
3 0 4
5 8 8

SUPER 6/55
7 0 8 8 4 6
6 8 23 26 33 41
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6/55 GRAND LOTTO
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P158,314,053.60

US saw AFP as unwieldy–memo

By DJ Yap

THE UNITED States described the Philippine military during the presidency of Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo as "leviathan" and often "hidebound" but praised the reform efforts of "canny and articulate" former Defense Secretary Avelina Cruz, a confidential US memo released by Wikileaks showed.

Based on the leaked diplomatic cable dated March 7, 2008, the US Embassy in Manila saw the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) as a large, unwieldy institution resistant to change, though it believed Cruz was then in the process of reforming it.

It also suggested that for Cruz to succeed in pushing his programs, he would need "some buzz and strong support from us."

The memo, classified "confidential," was supposedly transmitted to the US Department of State by then US Ambassador Francis J. Ricciardone Jr., who served in Manila from 2002 to 2005.

In the memo, Ricciardone mostly repeated on the Philippine Defense Reform (PDR) program, and Cruz's focus on ending insurgencies within the first six years of the 10-year program.

Fixed term for AFP chief

Ricciardone cited some of Cruz's proposals, such as a fixed term for the AFP chief of staff, and new approaches such as the "bite-bamager" program, which was to enlist civilian agencies in the counterinsurgency effort.

The document was one of only four sensitive diplomatic cables so far published by Wikileaks on its website that concerned from the US Embassy in Manila.

The Manila cables, more than 2,000 in all, are part of a cache of 251,287 documents from 274 US embassies and consulates worldwide that Wikileaks started uploading in batches late last year.

Of the Manila memos, 962 were unclassified, 749 were "confidential" while 66 were "secret," based on a graph in the Wikileaks website that categorized the documents by origin.

Thus far in their short tenure, Cruz seems to have focused on the right priorities, and appears well served by his earlier role in promoting the moribund Philippine telecommunications industry in the 1990s," the cable read in part, citing Cruz's business background.

It continued: "Taking a leaf out of an MBA textbook, he has established an agenda and is now in the process of restructuring the leviathan and reform hidebound Philippine military to his way of thinking."

Luck and support

"While canny and articulate and with excellent access to his President, Cruz will also need some luck and strong support from us to see PDR through," it said.

Apparently, it wasn't enough. Cruz resigned from the Arroyo Cabinet in November 2008.

In another leaked memo, the US showed keen interest in a military pact between the Philippines and Australia that was signed during the Arroyo presidency.

It described the pact to be "along the lines" of the country's Visiting Forces Agreement (VFA) with the US.

The US Embassy cable dated June 1, 2007, supposedly from former US Ambassador Kristie Kenney indicated Australia's interest in the Philippines' landmark Status of Forces Agreements (SOFA) with Australia, which was to be the country's second military pact after the VFA with the US.

The confidential memo said the SOFA, which was signed during Australian's visit to Australia in May 2007, would "likely have a difficult passage through the Philippine Senate."

(The Philippines has yet to ratify the agreement, though the Australian Parliament already did in September 2007.)

It said the SOFA would enable Australia to engage in significantly more military-to-military training and exercises and counter-terrorism assistance, "along the lines of what the US is able to do under our Visiting Forces Agreement."

But the cable noticed that Philippine officials "were quick to publicly dismiss comparisons between the two agreements."

"The two sides emphasized their counterterrorism partnership, especially in Mindanao and against transnational terrorist groups, but underscored that there would be no Australian boots in the Philippines, nor would Australian troops undertake combat operations," it added.

Unlawful killings

The US memo, citing contacts in Manila, also recalled how Australian officials in Canberra expressed concern about "unlawful killings" in the Philippines, but also announced that the Australian government would provide $24,000 (australian dollars) for funding human rights projects in the Philippines.

The cable also noted how protests against rights violations had "hounded" Arroyo during her Australian visit, including a private airplane-load flew overhead reportedly towing a banner "Stop Glorifying Bootlegs Palparan [sic]," a reference to former military commander and alleged human rights violator Jovito Palparan.

The Department of Foreign Affairs and the US Embassy in Manila have repeatedly declined to comment on WikiLeaks-released documents coming from or referencing the Philippines.

NBI goes after animal torturers

By Jeannette I. Andrade

THE NATIONAL Bureau of Investigation (NBI) is set to file multiple charges of animal cruelty against the operators of a website allegedly selling "crush video" featuring Filipino women torturing to death different kinds of animals.

Most of the victims of the "crush videos" were dogs, cats, rabbits, monkeys, snakes and frogs, depending on the request of the customers. The women are perpetrating the torture were also clad either in lingerie, bikini or dresses, on the request of the buyer.

The NBI Environmental and Wildlife Protection and Investigation Division (EWPID) will file charges of violation of Republic Act No. 8485 or the Animal Welfare Act; Republic Act No. 9482 or the Anti-Hubo Law; and Republic Act No. 9147 or the Wildlife Protection Act before the Department of Justice (DOJ) against the operator of the website whose name was withheld pending the filing of the charges.

The case stemmed from the complaints of the Animal Welfare Coalition and the Bright for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (Peta), who got wind of the sale of the perverse videos to foreigners over the Internet last last year.

The complainants also discovered that the women in the videos as well as the operators of the website were Filipino nationals.

A source in the NBI-EWPID, who requested anonymity because he was not authorized to speak on the matter, told the Inquirer it was the first time they encountered such a case.

He revealed that the website temporarily shut down its operations when a complaint was initially filed by Peta with the NBI-Baguio region office after it was discovered that most of the women in the videos came from some provinces in northern Luzon.

The source told the Inquirer that the videos submitted as evidence showed Filipino women locking a dog to death and taking to eyes out with their fingers, a cat's intestine being removed and being flayed alive, a frog being stomped to death, and a monkey being kicked to death.

Based on the website, a video was being sold for $80. Two clips were for $150 while three clips could be had for $200.

The source said the women in the videos were paid from $25 to $1,000 depending on the difficulty of the request of the patron, who could request for the kind of animal to be tortured to death.

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MAKING THEMSELVES HEARD GREG MACARAEG

Women's rights activists gather in front of the Commission on Elections building in Intramuros, Manila, to commemorate the 19th anniversary of Filipino women obtaining the right of suffrage. Yesterday they pushed as well for the passage of the reproductive health bill, job security measures and a legislated wage increase. Women electorate symbolically rights themselves the right to vote on April 30, 1937.

PH need not enact policies on climate change, says WB

By DJ Yap and Helen Flores

LIKE OTHER developing nations, the Philippines does not have to sacrifice growth to save the planet, the World Bank's top official on climate change said on Wednesday.

Andrew Steer, who was on a two-day visit last week, said the Philippines, a low emitter of greenhouse gases, was not obliged to enact climate change policies if this would mean the loss of jobs and income.

"It's very important that [developing nations] are able to generate jobs and incomes. Our view is they should not have to sacrifice growth or jobs for climate change issues," he said in a briefing in Pasig City.

Fortunately for the Philippines, Steer said, it doesn't have to.

"The good news is we now have quite a lot of evidence that you can enjoy what we call green growth," he said.

"There's growing evidence that if you're really smart, and put in place clever policies, you can see environmental policies to promote new technologies, higher investment, more jobs, better growth. That's the good news. You have to do that cleverly," said Steer.

The World Bank official came to discuss climate change issues with Philippine government and business leaders.

He noted the Philippines had a "very modest level of emission, about 1.0 tons of greenhouse gases per person."

By contrast, industrial countries on average emit 13 tons per person, with the United States registering 20 tons and China about 5.5 tons per person.

Steer said the reason the Philippines had very low emissions was that it already had a very high share of renewable-used energy of about 40 percent as compared to conventional fossil fuel sources.

"That doesn't mean and itself means the Philippines doesn't want to play its role. That's why this climate change action plan is important and why the Climate Change Commission is doing such important work," he said.

Need to be prepared

Steer said there was an increasing shift in focus from climate change mitigation to adaptation.

The Philippines, he said, is among the world's most vulnerable countries despite emitting only modest levels of greenhouse gases. Most at risk are low-lying coastal communities, he said.

Should a storm surge occur where high winds push on the ocean's surface, Steer said the country could be severely flooding and Filipinos need to be prepared.

The World Bank has made available $150 million to the Philippines to support various projects, particularly in the adoption of green technology.

Steer met with government officials and private sector representatives to discuss how they were going to flesh out agreements made in Cancun, Mexico, last year in preparation for a "challenging road" ahead.

Bert Hofman, the World Bank country director, said the bank was looking at a financial mechanism that would allow Philippine towns and cities, especially low-lying ones vulnerable to climate change, to pool their resources to provide easily accessible cash in times of disaster, like the time Tropical Storm Ondoy" hit.

"We're working on a facility that basically is a line of credit that would be available to government immediately after a disaster strikes, and we hope to bring that to our board later this year before the next rainy season," Hofman said.

Contingency fund

"So if there were to be significant disaster of sufficient scale, the government would immediately have financing for its contingency fund," he said of the facility.

He said the World Bank was looking at a "considerable amount, somewhere between $250 and $400 million," although it is up to the government to zero in the final amount.

Hofman said the PH was currently supporting the government's development and updating of a flood control map of Metro Manila.

"Metro Manila was of course hit very hard by Ondoy. It was 4-5 percent of GDP, very large economic losses because of Ondoy, and I think it made us all more aware what can be done to mitigate impacts of any future disasters of that scale," he said.

Firm importing electric buses

By Amy R. Remo

DARING the huge risks in investing in an infant Philippine electric vehicle industry, Japan firm Green Frog Zero Emission Transport is bringing in 20 electric buses within the year.

Green Frog director Philip Go ignored solid reporters the company plans to roll out the first 10 electric buses within the third quarter of the year.

The buses will initially ply a route that goes along Roxas from Edsa to the South Luzon Expressway (SLEx). From July, they will be available to commuters within the whole of Makati.

Special said the project is being jointly undertaken with Makati City and should it prove to be successful, the company would operate 3,000 electric buses within seven years' time.

He admitted that the cost of bringing in these buses was "high." He added, "But we're hoping that the government would work with us."

Green Frog is seeking tax perks, among other incentives, and a pioneer status from the Board of Investments, to make the project economically viable.

Special did not disclose how much the electric buses will cost but said that normally the bigger electric buses cost $300,000 ($13.3 million) each. Green Frog's buses, which will be sourced from China, will, however, be smaller and would cost less.

The company has already begun negotiations with commercial banks and government financial institutions for the bus financing package. Green Frog is also seeking some guarantees from the Philippine Export Import Credit Agency (PhilExim) to get loans lowered rates.

Green Frog's electric bus will have a capacity of 26 passengers, 16 of them seated. Fares would be initially pegged at P9. According to Special, half of the revenues will be coming from advertising income to help keep fares at reasonable levels during the initial roll-out.

The government has begun to advocate more aggressively for the use of electric vehicles to ensure a sustainable, environment-friendly and energy-efficient transportation system in the country.

Emissions from the transport sector currently represent 28 percent of all pollution in the country, and about 80 percent of air pollution in Metro Manila. A sizeable proportion of vehicle emissions is attributed to inefficient public vehicles, particularly tricycles, jeepneys and buses.

Price of generic Pinoy Tasty loaf to rise by ₱1

By Abigail L. Ho

THE PRICE of the generic Pinoy Tasty loaf bread will go up by ₱1 as PEP effective May 9 due to rising flour prices.

In an interview, Philippine Baking Industry Group president Walter Go said bakers had delayed increasing the price long enough but they could no longer absorb the cost hiking due to flour prices.

As of last week, the price of a 25-kilogram bag of flour had reached ₱920, already too high to be offset by the drop in sugar prices. The price of cooking oil had likewise started to increase.

"Bread demand is slowest now because it is summer vacation, but we still have to take the price of Pinoy Tasty. We don't have any other choice," he told the inquirer.

The Philippine Association of Flour Millers (Pafmil) had offered to give a discount to bakers making Pinoy Tasty, but only for the flour used in making the generic loaf.

Pafmil executive director Ric Pinca said the group was still working on the mechanics of the scheme, particularly on safeguards to ensure that the discounted flour would only go toward the production of Pinoy Tasty and not of branded loaves.

No feedback from millers

Pafmil proposed the scheme in response to the Department of Trade and Industry's appeal to avert an increase in the price of Pinoy Tasty.

But Go said it had been almost three weeks since the proposal was made and yet the merchanders had not been finalized.

"We followed up with the DTI regarding this (last Friday), but we were told there was still no feedback from the millers. We can't wait forever for them," he said.

"We wrote a letter to the DTI on April 1 saying we'll have to increase the price of Pinoy Tasty by ₱1, but without stating a specific date. Since there was still no action from the millers, we wrote the DTI again last Wednesday. But time to tell them that we'll be increasing the price of Pinoy Tasty by May 9," he said.

Discount for flour

He said that if these millers really wanted to help keep bread prices from going up, they should reduce prices not only of flour used in the production of Pinoy Tasty, but of other bread products as well.

"I don't know how they can formulate a scheme to provide discounts only for flour used to make Pinoy Tasty as not all millers supply to bakers who do. I think only three or four are supplying to Pinoy Tasty bakers, including Asia Miguel Mills Inc., Philippine Fastmost Milling Corp. and Morning Star Milling Corp. The millers should just reduce flour prices," he said.

Should there be any positive development this week with regard to flour prices, he said the rise in the price of Pinoy Tasty could still be prevented. Otherwise, the price adjustment would push through by May 9.

Diskwento Caravan rolls out to help consumers cope

By Abigail L. Ho

TO OFFSET consumers with some respite from rising prices, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) will be bringing its Diskwento Caravan—a project that pools manufacturers to sell their products at discounted prices—to more areas nationwide.

Following its success in Pasig City, Quezon City and Davao City, the caravan went to Bukidnon last week, and would be going to Antipolo, Abra, Oriental Mindoro, Pangasinan, Surigao del Norte, Misamis, Manila, Muntinlupa and the DTI field office in Makati from this week to the end of the month.

Next month, the caravan would make its rounds of Zamboanga, Tumbaraga del Norte, Cagayan, Northern Samar, Sorsogon, Davao Oriental, Tagaig City and Mandaluyong City. In July, the project will roll out to Siquijor, Dinagat, Quezon and Camiguin.

Mark downs up to 70%

The Diskwento Caravan offers basic products such as generic medicines, bread, sardines, cooking oil, processed meat, fruits, vegetables, debut/prom items and school supplies that their manufacturers sell at discounted prices.

The caravan is hosted at city or municipal halls, under the supervision of the mayors.

For consumers wanting to get more value for their peso, product prices are marked down by as much as 70 percent.

Trade Undersecretary Merly Cruz said the DTI coordinated closely with its regional and provincial offices to ensure that the items sold were really needed by the local residents.

Aside from selling discounted products, Cruz said the caravan would also serve as the venue for training activities and job fairs. DC for public schools launches, and livelihood and One Town One Product program promotions. Live shows for qualified actors, small and medium enterprises could also be promoted in businesses here.

P-Noy names new head of office probing appointees

By Philip C. Tubeza

PRESIDENT Aquino has appointed a new head of the office investigating graft complaints against presidential appointees, Executive Secretary Paquito N. Ochoa Jr. announced today.

Ochoa said that President Aquino recently appointed Rhodora G. Agcaoili as the new deputy executive secretary for legal affairs.

Aside from legal and legislative matters, the Office of the Deputy Executive Secretary for Legal Affairs (ODESLA) has extra-wide responsibilities of the Presidential Anti-Graft Commission (PAGC), which was abolished.

"We are conscious of the need to bolster the capabilities of our legal department ... we want to make significant inroads into cutting the backlog of cases in Ombudsman, some of which have been pending there for years," Ochoa said in a statement.

Agcaoili is a graduate of Ateneo de Manila University School of Law class 1994 and was a partner in the Francis Mahonia Barreras, Inda Sayoc & De Los Angeles Law Office, where he handled litigation and arbitration for foreign and local clients.

Rhonda Malimata is one of the country's biggest law firms whose clients include the Philippine International Air Terminal Co. (PIATCO), which is seeking compensation from the government for the Ninoy Aquino International Airport Terminal 3.

A graduate of Philosophy from De La Salle University in 1987, Agcaoili took up law at the Ateneo de Manila University and passed 7th in the bar exams in 1993.

He later obtained a Master's of Law degree from the University of Michigan in 1997, with special concentration on international economic law.

Gloria oversees administrative cases appealed before the Office of the President, provides the President with input on legal matters, and reviews proposed legislation, Ochoa said.

Under the reorganization, Ochoa will report directly to the executive secretary instead of to Senior Deputy Executive Secretary Jose Anas Anacoreta, who has resigned.

Anacoreta was director of Poblacion Lawyers, a group of volunteer lawyers who served as the President's poll watchdog group in the last elections.

After Aquino won, Anacoreta helped reorganize the Office of the Executive Secretary.

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THE DAILY GOSPEL

MAY 1 (Sunday)
Easter Week 2
2nd Sunday of Easter
Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24
Alleluia (Give to the Lord for he is good, for his love is everlasting.)

1st Reading: Acts 2:42-47

The whole community were faithful to the teaching of the apostles, the common life of sharing, the breaking of bread and the prayers.

A holy fear came upon all the people, for many wonders and miracles (signs were done by the apostles. Now all the believers lived together and shared all their belongings. They would sell their property and all else had and then share the proceeds with others according to their need. Each day they met together in the Temple area; they broke bread in their homes; they shared their food with great joy and simplicity of heart; they praised God and were in the people's favor. And every day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

2nd Reading: 1 Pt 1:3-9

Let us praise God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for his great mercy in raising us up Christ from the dead by his glorious or how we will be living today. The inheritance which does not corrupt nor pass, and was never among our interests in our heritage, since God's power shall keep you faithful until our salvation is revealed on the last day.

There is cause for joy, even though you may for a time, have to suffer many trials. Then will your faithful, like gold (a faithful, however, proves more but faith, worth is much more, will bring joy to the end (praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ appears.

You have not yet seen him (but you love him; even without seeing him, you believe in him and experience a heavenly joy beyond all words, for you are reaching the goal of your faith: the salvation of your souls.

Gospel: Jn 20:19-31

On the evening of that day, the first day of the (a week), the doors were locked where the disciples were, because of their fear of the Jews, but Jesus came and stood in their midst. He said to them, "Peace be with you!" But he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples kept looking at the Lord and were full of joy.

Again Jesus said to them, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." After saying this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you do not forgive, they are not forgiven."

Thomas, the Twin, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. The other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he replied, "Until I have seen in his hands the print of the nails and put my fingers in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

Eight days later, the disciples were inside again and Thomas was with them. Despite the locked doors Jesus came and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands; stretch out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."

Thomas then said, "You are my Lord and my God." Jesus replied, "You believe because you can see. How(ever) happy are those who have not seen and believe."

There were many other signs that Jesus gave in the presence of his disciples, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; believe and you will have life (he ought by them).

Reflection

Reflect on the Word of God in the daily Gospel. Let the Gospel be your daily bread.

Meditation

What made us happy? Did we offer and there are many possibilities. This is possible because Jesus, first, forgives us, we are good as dead.

Action

Let us ask the Lord to fill us with his (Holy Spirit) (Advocate - to live in the state of strength, his grace.

Action

Create your blessings today. How would you describe and appreciate Jesus' love (grace) (presence of the risen Christ)?

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Pope's words in Legazpi: Be proud of labor

From page A1

normal condition of every human being.

"The eloquence of the life of Christ is unsurpassable. He belongs to the 'working world,' He has appreciation and respect for human work. It can indeed be said that He looks with love upon human work and the difficulties that it takes, seeing in each one of these beings a particular facet of man's likeness with God, the Creator and Father," (Hayuhan) Aabowin Bawasan, n. 261.

Mesmerized

Pope John Paul II visited Legazpi City on Feb. 21, 1981, where thousands of faithful welcomed him. Two Catholic youth leaders—Ana Maria Stella Dajoyo and Daniel Valencia Simeon Celino—shared a relief in Cagsiw central hall on the Pope's hand as he was welcomed at the airport.

After a motorcade around the city, the Pope celebrated Mass at the St. Gregory Church parish at 9 a.m.

Alumni from the St. Agnes' Academy who participated in the Mass recalled how they were charmed and awed by the saintly Pontiff, who exuded an indefinable aura.

Father Hans, who was the parish priest of Legazpi City at the time, was the executive secretary of the committee in charge of the visit.

He was among those who met Pope John Paul II at the airport as about 1 p.m. that same day for his return flight to Manila.

"The Pope exhausted all of us—including then Gov. Ceding Imperial and then Mayor Evelyn Imperial," recalled Father Hans.

Mesmerized, he could not utter a single word, he said.

Second encounter

Father Hans worked hard for the canonization of the Our Lady of Peñafrancia Church on Tabao Road in Legazpi City. The church was completed in 1999.

"Before the church inauguration, we brought the statue of Our Lady of Peñafrancia to Rome to have it blessed by Pope John Paul II," Father Hans recalled.

He said those were days followed by the Vatican-based Jose Cardinal Sanchez, archbishop emeritus of Nueva Segovia, who is from Bauan, Cotanduanes. Cardinal Sanchez was appointed secretary in the congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples and Prefect for congregation for the Clergy on July 1, 1993.

With the help of Cardinal Sanchez, Father Hans said he and his group were able to enter the private chapel of the Holy Father, where the latter celebrated Mass every morning at 7 a.m.

"After Mass, we went to the Papal private library beside the chapel," he said.

Father Hans and two other priests—his former classmates, the late Msgr. Ernesto Alberto and retired Msgr. Francisco Molina—entered the statue of Our Lady of Fatima for the Pope's blessing.

Before the blessing, Father Hans said the Pope talked to him.

"I was speechless. All I can remember is that the Pope kept on repeating 'Muhalin!'"

"From the chapel, we moved the statue to St. Peter's Square in front of the St. Peter's Basilica where the Holy Fa ther appeared again," Father Hans said.

Third encounter

He noted that there were only two persons—that of Our Lady of Fatima that he had brought and that of Padre Pio carried by Italian devotees.

From Rome, they accompanied the statue of Our Lady of Fatima to Portugal to be crowned by the bishop of Fatima in the presence of many people and its then Church's delegation of 12 devotees.

"I considered the Mass with the bishop of Portugal," he said.

After the pilgrimage, they took the statue back to Legazpi City on May 13, 1999, where it was displayed in a motorcade around the city before ending in the Albay Cathedral.

From the cathedral, the devotees transferred the statue to the newly built church at Tabao Road to one of the biggest processions in Legazpi City, Father Hans said.

Our Lady of Fatima has since become the patroness of the new church.

Thirty years later, Father Hans, now 78, always looks proud, blessed and fortunate as he reminisces on his unique experience.

He is leading the 6th Ave Maria Vocation Retreat of 28 pilgrims from April 26 to May 4 to attend Pope John Paul II's three-day beatification event at the Vatican.

A BEAUTIFUL HUG Giant image of the Blessed John Paul will be unfurled near the façade of St. Peter's Basilica after the time of sainthood. Nuns and lay workers parting up to be let in across the image before the unveiling. AFP

BLESSED ARE THE INNOCENTS Pope John Paul II kisses a baby prior to his Pontiff's weekly general audience at the Vatican in this November 2001 file photo. AFP

BEATIFICATION TIMETABLE

VATICAN CITY—Late Pope John Paul II will be declared "blessed"—one step from sainthood in the Catholic Church—at a solemn Mass in St. Peter's Basilica on Sunday that will celebrate his extraordinary life.

Here are some of the key dates and times for the beatification:

Friday: Pope John Paul II's coffin is exhumed from its resting place in a crypt under St. Peter's Basilica, signaling the start of the beatification proceedings as thousands of pilgrims crowd into central Rome.

Saturday: French nun Marie Simon-Pierre, whose unexplained healing was the miracle that qualified John Paul for beatification, is set to speak at a prayer vigil starting at 1800 GMT in the ancient Circus Maximus arena in front of more than 100,000 people.

Sunday: Pope Benedict XVI will declare his predecessor John Paul II "blessed" at a mid-filled basilica. Beatrice Mize in St. Peter's Basilica after the Mass, a huge tapestry of the pope many from full sainthood in the Catholic Church. Schedule is in Manila time:

11:30 a.m. in Manila: Various ambassies will begin to allow access to St. Peter's Square for the ceremony. A total of around 500,000 people are expected.

2 p.m.: One of John Paul's favorite prayers is special prayer in which he will declare John Paul as one of the "blessed." While these words, a giant image of the newly beatified John Paul II will be unfurled over the facade of St. Peter's Basilica.

6:30 p.m.: Benedict will pay his respects to special prayer in which he will declare John Paul as one of the "blessed." While these words, a giant image of the newly beatified John Paul II will be unfurled over the facade of St. Peter's Basilica.

Monday: A Mass of thanksgiving to 10:30. Peter's Square will be led by Various Secretary of State Tarcisio Bertone. John Paul's coffin will then be laid to rest inside the basilica near Michelangelo's Pieta Pieta. AFP

John Paul suffering ...

From page A1

Beatification will confer a "Blessed" status on the charismatic Pope, who died in 2005 after reigning for nearly 27 years.

The Vatican said it expected at least 21 heads of state and government to attend the ceremony, including Presidents Giorgio Napolitano of Italy, Felipe Calderon of Mexico and Benigno Aquino of the Philippines.

Zimbabwean leader Robert Mugabe, who has been widely condemned for human rights abuses for decades, will also be attending under a special exemption from a European Union travel ban that will allow him to fly into Rome.

The ban, imposed and he will attend," Mugabe's spokesperson George Charamba said MTV but declined to give details on his trip out of security concerns.

Mugabe, a Catholic, also attended John Paul's funeral in 2005 on a trip that drew controversy because Britain's Prince Charles shook hands with him.

Traveling under United Nations auspices, Mugabe also traveled to Rome in 2008 for a summit of the UN's food and agriculture Organization.

The Vatican is not required to host but is not part of the European Union.

300,000 pilgrims

Some 300,000 in total are expected to come for the Vatican ceremony, which will be relayed on giant screens around the city, including around 300,000 pilgrims from central Rome and 200,000 residents of the Italian capital.

Specially chartered buses and planes have already begun taking pilgrims to Rome and a group of hundreds of French faithful is expected to arrive from the French port of Boulogne by boat on Saturday.

At least 1,000 people were expected at the Mass presided over by the Circus Maximus Saturday.

French nun Marie Simon-Pierre, whose healing from Parkinson's disease has been confirmed as a miracle by the Vatican, was to speak at the vigil.

The healing in 2005 she was healed thanks to the intercession of John Paul II.

A second miracle is needed before the late Pope can be declared a saint and the Vatican has hinted that full sainthood could come soon.

Bitches nuns were also seen to the Pope's funeral in St. Peter's six years ago had cried out "Santo Subito!" (Sainthood now!" The Vatican's complex beatification procedure was begun shortly after his death.

Thousands have gone there masses to the late, can describing how they were helped by prayers to the late Pope after his death and 270 testimonies of presumed miracles have already been submitted to be examined in secret detail.

But critics have spoken out against the accelerated beatification for John Paul, accusing him of ignoring progressive movements in the Church and turning a blind eye for years to multiple scandals involving pedophile priests.

"The Church hierarchy can avoid following more suit into these wounds by slowing down their hasty drive to confer saintliness on the World," said Barbara Blaine, head of the clergy abuse victims' support group Snap.

"In more than 25 years as the most powerful religious figure on the planet, John Paul II did almost nothing to safeguard kids across the world," she said.

Beatrix Pfeiffer, 46, who had come from Bavaria with her young daughters, said she couldn't miss the event, the first pilgrimage for her daughters.

"I had to be a part of such a historical moment. We're only just arrived but the atmosphere's great, it's really exciting," she said as they stood minutes the crowds, gazing up at a vast portrait of John Paul II hanging from the iconic columns outside the Vatican.

Tacky souvenirs

Angeals peddlers have been hawking tacky souvenirs around the Vatican in the run-up to today's ceremony, including speeches with the Pope's face, rosary globe paperweights and baseball hats and T-shirts reading "I Love JPII."

"We're planning to camp out at the right until midnight, then go from church to church to pray, before heading to the Vatican around 4 a.m. (0000 GMT) to soak up the atmosphere and get the best seats possible," Mbeled said. AFP

World Youth Day innovations started in Manila '95

By Wireman B. Marbella
Contributor

POPE JOHN Paul II's second and last visit to Manila for World Youth Day in January 1995 was marked by a final Mass at Rizal Park that was attended by an estimated five million devotees.

Some people declared it the largest papal gathering in human Catholic history and others suggested it might have been the biggest Christian gathering in history. Possible, but it's difficult to overdrain comparable gatherings.

Size widely known is that the Philippine experience, the first ever held in Asia, contributed many innovations—a hymn and a logo—that now form part of all World Youth Day celebrations.

The hymn, the result of a nationwide song-writing contest done by the diocesan organizers, became a hit tune, "Tell the World of His Love."

Written by Filipino composer Trina Belmonte, the hymn revolves around the overall theme "to the Father but save me, as I send you" (John 20:21). It opens with this line: "God so loved the world that He sent His only Son" (John 3:16).

Engaging the youth

That the first hymn and logo for World Youth Day were composed and produced in the Philippines, and catchy beloved, is a tribute of sorts.

A year before the international youth gathering on Jan. 10-15, 1995, a committee was organized by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) headed by Bishop Leo Drona to start preparations.

The Philippine innovations began at that point. Instead of a written report describing the proposed preparations, the CBCP committee sent a multimedia computer presentation.

Among the panel's major objectives was to engage the youth as the diocesan level to participate and build up interest leading to World Youth Day.

A nationwide logo design and a song-writing contest were proposed.

The winning logo design shows a native wooden house with its tall hanging on a cross and is symbol of fishermen casting nets out to sea, evoking the words "I will make you fishers of men" (Matthew 4:19) and supporting the overall theme.

Work of love

It was a mark of love from start to finish.

Ed Pedroso fashioned a 16-acre, coil commercial in his multi-storied shop. The Capistrano rig was produced in Pilipinas, led by Auther Rabus and Bobby Barreiros, one of 195, donated free an ones.

Ramir Dans donated billboards in visible areas. Ramir Pena and JR Bondoga of Sail Miguel Corp. conducted the rallies.

A select board of judges, joined by Bishop Renato Escondo of the Vatican, picked the winners.

After 1995, the Philippine example of having a logo and a hymn to announce the theme was followed in the succeeding World Youth Days in Paris, France; Rome, Italy; Toronto, Canada; Cologne, Germany; and Sydney, Australia.

Next year's assembly will be in Madrid, Spain.

World Youth Day began to home in 1986. Before Manila, it was celebrated in Buenos Aires, Argentina; Santiago de Compostela, Spain; Czestochowa, Poland; and Denver in the United States.

Precious memories

Pope John Paul II was to have returned to Manila in 2003 for the World Meeting of Families, the adventure health problems prevented this.

He died on April 2, 2005, at the age of 84, leaving as precious memories of his last visit to the Philippines.

He was the most traveled Pope in the history of the papacy, logging over 1 million kilometers in visiting 129 countries.

His 27 year papacy was the second longest, exceeded only by Pope Pius IX who served for 31 years in the 19th century.

The song "Tell the World of His Love" speaks of the Father's love for His Son, it can well speak also of Pope John Paul II's love for his Son in the Philippines.

Let us tell the world of His love.
The greatest love the world has known.
Search the world for those who have walked
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Fill the world's darkest corners
With his light from up above
Walk every step, every mile, every road
Tell the world
And tell the world of His love.

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Across the NATION

Army adopts Red tactic in new Bicol counterinsurgency plans

By Jaime Rosendor Jr.
Inquirer Southern Luzon

PILI, CAMARINES SUR —The military is adopting a strategy that has proven successful as a tool of communist guerrillas to win over recruits and supporters in areas where there is little government presence—community organizing.

Top Army officials here said at least 500 noncombatants would be sent to various areas around the Bicol region to serve as "community organizers" under the military's new counterinsurgency program labeled "Oplan Bayanihan."

Lt. Col. Honorsigh Aleventina, head of civil military operations of the 9th Infantry Division (ID), told the Inquirer one company each of three organizers would be integrated with three Army brigades in six provinces in Bicol.

A fourth company, he said, would be retained at the 9th Infantry Division headquarters in Camp Elias Angeles in Pinamalay, Pili, Camarines Sur.

The organizers, he said, would be sent to the 901st Brigade in Daraga, Albay; 902nd in Lobo, Camarines Norte; and 903rd in Gubat, Sorsogon.

The work of the organizers would be centered on community organizing in villages that have been cleared of rebel presence, according to Aleventina.

The noncombatants went through a two-month training on community organizing, he said. The included courses on public speaking, civil relations and values formation.

Aleventina said the company that would be retained at the 9th ID would be sent to areas that are said to be high priority of development projects being planned by government in areas where rebels once operated.

He said among the tasks of community organizers would be to coordinate with villagers to identify what their communities needed in terms of development projects.

They would also coordinate with local government units, other government agencies and nongovernment groups in finding solutions to problems that have been identified in villages where the organizers would be sent.

"Their deployment follows the shift in paradigm to the counterinsurgency strategy of the government," he said.

The strategy essentially seeks to "win peace rather than conduct an all-out war against the communist rebels," he said.

OF DOGS AND MUTTS
Three dogs thrust with eagerness at their attention as a busy street in Mandaue City as two apparently politics even look on at what awaits the fire.

Sierra Madre trek tribute to slain botanist Co

SAN MARIANO, Isabela—The weeklong trek through the Sierra Madre National Park in honor of slain botanist Leonard Co ended on Tuesday, with the expedition team documenting the diversity of the flora and fauna of the country's "last great forest."

However, the team also noted that Typhoon "Juan," which hit Isabela last year, destroyed sections of the forest and disturbed habitat there.

Jeremy Hortes, the expedition's organizer and spokesperson, said large trees were uprooted and survey paddles were found in some areas.

"The destruction brought by the supertyphoon is very evident. He cannot even catch rat (gut) because of their decimated habitat," said Hortes.

Typhoon "Juan," which packed maximum winds of more than 200 kilometers per hour, caused the Sierra Madre mountains and devastated residential and business centers in Isabela and Cagayan in October last year.

The 30-member expedition team, led by University of the Philippines-Baguio Prof. Jere Pedroso and mountaineer Roberto Acosta, surveyed and documented plants and animals along the trail that started from the coastal town of Palanan, where Co spent years of research, and ended in this town. The team was accompanied by 18 Dumagat guides.

The trail is in the Northern Sierra Madre Natural Park, which covers Palanan, Maconacon, Divilacan, Ilagan, San Mariano, Tumauini, Cabagan, San Pablo and Dinapigue towns.

Environment advocates described the natural park, covering 359,486 hectares, as the Philippines' "last great forest" and one of most important protected areas of the country.

The acknowledged, however, that it has been blamed on soldiers during a clash with communist rebels in Ilaganas, Lowa, in November last year were stationed on April 18 in a Dumagat forest patrols in Palanan.

Villamor Visaya Jr., Inquirer Northern Luzon

Gov't brings Leyte inventors closer to patents

By Jove Gobeza
Inquirer Visayas

PILI, LEYTE—Jesse Villamil of Barangay town in Leyte, an engineer, has developed technology to extract oil from the citronella plant, locally called sereguso, in 1990 but has no patent for it.

Villamil is now pursuing his hopes of acquiring a patent for his invention on the ground bounds of the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (Ipophil) in Pala, Leyte, which opened on Thursday.

The hydro-steam extractor technology developed by Villamil is a cost of P120,000 could be used to extract citronella oil, an ingredient for insect repellant, soaps or perfumes, among others.

"It will make my work easier as I would no longer go to Manila just to have my invention get a patent," the 71-year-old Villamil said.

Ricardo Blancaflor, director general of the Ipophil, said only one trademark from Eastern Visayas has been registered in his office.

But with the opening of an Ipophil office in the region, Blancaflor said he expects more patents and trademarks to be submitted.

'Bangus' rules in pageant-crazy city

By Yolanda Sotelo
Inquirer Northern Luzon

DAGUPAN CITY—A unique batch of beauty contestants is a far cry from past pageantry did not need underwear, evening gowns or bathing suits on Friday when they were paraded in all their naked glory.

They were marched and photographed by a panel of judges, who narrowed the field of their contenders. On one of their heads and their glistening scales.

The test is pageant for milk fish, called the Bangus Babes, one of the strangest highlights of the city's annual Bangus Festival which began this week.

Participating in the males' unusually coated dregs of the city and adjoining coastal towns.

The city's Political Bangus 2011 titles was the fish called by Mrs. Lipstick of Hundley town who said it takes "the right food, characteristics and lots of eating" to make a gorgeous specimen.

His brother Arman, named the fish that earned second runner-up.

DAGUPAN'S best "bangus" on display

HOMETOWN Snapshot

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Flies help in landslide search for living, dead

BAYUGAN, Compostela Valley—Aside from rescuers and sniffing dogs, volunteers digging for signs of life or bodies in a landslide site here are getting help from a much-reviled source—flies.

"We would start digging when flies hover. They could be bodies there," said Rolland Bernardez, leader of a team of volunteers rescuers from Davao City.

At least 23 bodies have been recovered so far as of Wednesday and retrieved bones are still looking for at least 11 miners.

Bernardez's group, Seven Fire Fighters, was able to recover three bodies from under the mud with the help of swarming flies.

He said it was difficult to sense the rapidly half-a-kilometer of mud for bodies.

The giant rock continues as a 22-member demolition team has been sent to the landslide hit village of Binalbag early on Wednesday to enhance the government order to forcibly move out more than 200 families in the area.

The team is composed of personnel from the municipal engineering office. Primrose L. Lim and Dyrnel Jay C. Santos, Inquirer Mindanao

INQUIRER Mindanao

A SOLDIER stands guard as rebel tears scour the landslide site in Pantukan, Compostela Valley, for survivors and bodies. Mining in the area has given job opportunities to breadwinners who risk their lives for lack of decent-paying jobs.

For small miners, life's a gamble

By Rose May de Guzman, Jeoffry Mabaro and Fransoni L. Lim
Reporters, Compostela Valley

FOR 300 Celadic, the chance to strike big and earn thousands of pesos in just several hours of working underground means more than the constant risk of death.

Celadic was among the 13 people rescued after a landslide buried the small-scale mining area in Sitio Pangasinan in Barangay Kingking in Compostela Valley's Pantukan town. At least 13 people were killed.

"I do this for my family, for food, for them (children), for our survival. Tell me, for a high school graduate like me, would there be a more high-paying job such as this?" the 26-year-old Celadic of two says.

Celadic says he earns P15,000 weekly from his efforts and sends the amount to his wife, Janet. Indeed, it is a fortune for a man like him who does not even have any college degree.

"With this money, I'm planning to buy a parcel of lot so I can farm vegetables. For now, let me do this. I will save," he says.

The young man lost his brother James in the avalanche of mud and rocks. Together with two others, the brothers had been trapped for hours in tunnel.

The loss of his money has been a strong motivation for boys and men to brave the deep and perilous mine shafts in Compostela Valley's gold-rich areas.

Miners' mantra

According to officials, miners often live in their own unsupervised mines, which has led to almost on-the-spot business and disregard to their safety. "The today, die in morrow, the next die." Translated loosely: live for the moment.

This explains why many miners, who were once victims of landslides, usually return to mining when new gold rush areas are being "discovered."

"We have been constantly reminding them of the dangers especially during rainy, but unfortunately some were just as stubborn," Gov. Arturo D'Ayala says.

The provincial government and several mining groups have signed a memorandum of agreement that mandates mutual cooperation and police their ranks, and follow safety measures, especially when some are nonstop and may trigger landslides.

The dead was made weeks after a similar deadly landslide in Pantukan's Barangay Napnapan in May 2008. But as days and months went all, the miners seem to have forgotten its importance, officials lament.

Surge of people

Pantukan community affairs officer Liz Fernandez says the local government has implemented stringent rules to control the surge of people going to the gold-rich dropoff.

"An ordinance order was put in place to restrict the movement of people. They were told to register before going up to the mountains, but they supposedly coldly," Fernandez says.

"They would just say, Kanduli lang kamo, hindi kami sangid dito, ilang magbayaro, count na kamo (We will not stay long. If we make money, we will leave)."

With the current gold price of at least $1,000 a gram, miners and would-be miners from as far as the dynamic and fastgun provinces are on alert for news of the next gold rush area.

Nine of Compostela Valley's 11 municipalities have such areas—from Maragusan's Mt. Diwalwal to the north; Compostela's Bunga; New Bataan's Cantondongan; Maragusan's Panoraganon; Mabuhay's Esperanza; Monkayo's Mt. Uhald

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INQUIRER

OPINION

EDITORIAL

Right man

THE SUCCESSFUL 2010 elections, the first election to polls in the history of the country, was proof positive that the Philippines' electoral system, long mired in old habits and antiquated method, could evolve to match the necessities and expectations of a new century. Though highly controversial, the Precinct Count Optical Scan (PCOS) machines proved to be efficient and user-friendly, leading to what many saw as a mostly hassle-free elections. The machines made believers even among skeptics.

Last April 27, President Aquino, who has been vocal about the urgent need to modernize the country's election process and to add to the Comelec eminence with an IT background, chose Augusto "Gus" Lagman as Comelec commissioner, to fill the seat vacated by the retired Commissioner Nicodemo Ferrer.

Lagman is a veteran IT executive who opposed the use of PCOS machines in the 2010 elections because, according to him, they lacked transparency. Prior to this, he was a leading member of a group that questioned before the Supreme Court the validity of a multibillion-peso contract that the Comelec, then headed by Chairman Benjamin Abalos, entered into with the MegaPacific consortium for the automation of the 2004 elections. Lagman's group claimed that MegaPacific won the contract without proper bidding. Payments were made under the contract, but the project fell through. Millions of pesos worth of computer equipment and facilities were wasted, and a Senate investigation found the transaction highly anomalous. The high court, favoring Lagman and his group's petition, eventually nullified the contract. (It even directed the Ombudsman to "determine the criminal liability, if any, of the public officials [and conspiring private individuals, if any]" involved in it. The Court also ordered the government to recover the payments to MegaPacific.)

It may seem counterintuitive to appoint to the Comelec, which is moving toward modernization, one of the most vehement opposers of automated elections. Indeed, days after being appointed to the poll body, Lagman again called for the Comelec to stop using the PCOS machines. "My stand is very clear that we don't use those PCOS machines again," Lagman said. "They have a lot of defects." He also called for a return to manual elections in the upcoming Mindanao polls.

"We know that he has spoken out on so many issues relating to the automated elections," Presidential Deputy Spokesperson Abigail Valte said. But the Palace is confident that Lagman "can discharge the duties of his office as capably, as competently, as he has in the past," she added. She agree.

First of all, Lagman is the very image of a Filipino IT expert, having founded STI College. The Comelec can draw much from his IT expertise as it lays down the foundation of automated elections for the future, even as he himself can serve as a kind of guardian over the sanctity of the elections' technical aspects.

Secondly, he was with Namfrel. Doubtless, with his record and involvement in past polls and his crusade against irregularities in the Comelec, he has established himself as a relentless watchdog for clean and credible elections. Few can question his grasp of the nitty-gritty of the country's electoral process.

He may not be a lawyer as the other commissioners are. But he understands his role. "The other six [commissioners] are all lawyers. I can help in the automation, in the setting of systems and procedures," he said.

Election lawyer Romulo Macalintal has warned that Lagman's opposition to the PCOS machines has compromised the new Comelec commissioner's impartiality and he might have to inhibit himself from several cases involving the 2010 elections. On the contrary, we believe Lagman's familiarity with IT and to processes makes him the perfect judge of such cases. He will be the best "equipped" to spot the "technical anomalies" alleged in the cases, if there would be any; he will know what he will be talking about.

As far as election reform groups are concerned, he is the perfect inside man. Lagman's reputation would give the Comelec's sagging public image a big lift. With him, the Comelec can take the next big step toward modernization, with more confidence.

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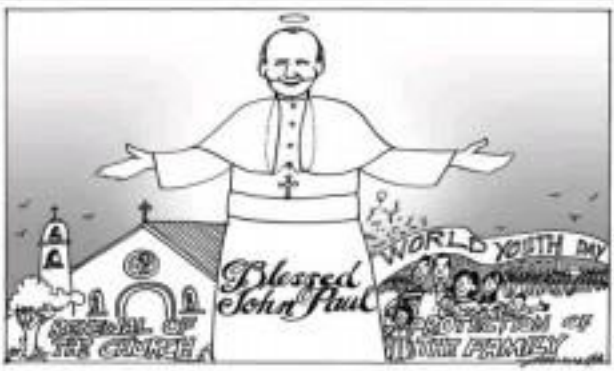

The taming of organized labor

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

THERE ARE many workers today who work for wages that are the same 50 years ago, and yet, ironically, the increase in size of the working class has not increased the ranks of organized labor. Workers' unions today have manifestly less power over the conditions of production. Indeed, one can go further and say that economies like the Philippines have less control over the fate of their own economies than before. It is important to ask why as we go through the throes of another Labor Day.

May Day is the special day that is set aside to honor workers all over the world. The very first celebration was held on May 1, 1890. The world-wide demonstrations and parades held that year were organized explicitly in support of the right-hour workday. Labor has long been an international affair. But has it become one of the more important dates in the calendar of workers' movements, becoming the occasion for the expression of the manifold grievances and demands of the world's proletariat?

At the height of the Cold War, May Day parades became closely associated with the rising pomp and ceremonies of socialism. Wishing to dramatize the United States from the Soviet Union's oppressive appropriation of this event, the US Congress designated May 1 as "Loyalty Day" instead, preferring to celebrate Labor Day on the first Monday of September. May Day celebrations, as expected, became somewhat moribund after the collapse of the Soviet Union and the end of the Communist-socialist bloc.

But there have been developments in the system of production and in the world economy in a whole that are responsible for the decline in the power of organized labor everywhere. New technologies have made it possible to bypass and to circumvent the already powerful in such a manner as to undermine existing labor organizations.

I first saw this in the mid-'80s in British strikes during research on workers in the shipping industry. It was the heyday of the trade unions, and the British underwriters' unions were among the largest and most powerful workers' organizations. Traditional underwriters were involved handling cargo from the docks on to the ship's holds using old-style pulleys pulled by winches. This was tedious and labor-intensive work. It dockers' strike was certain to bring all work from activity to a halt, and with it, all shipping.

All this changed with the advent of steel containers. Cargo now could be loaded into huge containers far away from the docks, and by workers other than members of the dockers' unions. Instead of pulleys, powerful machines were needed to hoist entire containers into the ships. Only a handful of workers were needed for this task. Almost overnight, the power of the dockworkers' unions evaporated before their eyes. The electric dredge was the disintegration of the dockworkers' job mate: they would be handled away from the port.

This kind of is stretching to what is now occurring on a global scale. It is the template for what is today better known as "business process outsourcing," using the broad range of new information technologies, mostly every business can now outsource their manpower needs by going global. The firm to go are the mines and technical support personnel. Those services are routinely farmed out to "call centers" located in different countries. Software applications are usually follow. Large architectural and engineering firms outsource their drafting operations. Companies outsource their accounting and payroll operations to mass processing centers around the globe. International firms acquiring large volumes of research on longer need to keep full-time employees to do research for them. They can now outsource this to a virtual global army of anonymous workers without having to resort to the complex labor procedures that do not have gone.

Workers in so-called BPO companies are typically unorganized. Employee turn-over is quite fast. Except for the people at the supervisory and managerial levels, "call center" agents typically do not stay in their jobs longer than two years. The young people who are drawn to these jobs usually think of BPO jobs as transition employment, preparatory to working overseas. The working hours, usually at night, are difficult to maintain as they require a drastic interruption in lifestyle. The work is intense, but general and closely monitored, allowing little room, if any, for extended interaction among the employees themselves.

In many ways, the BPO worker represents the new face of the proletariat in the age of the Internet. Many of the kinds around, if any, are the conditions of her work. She has replaced the male mass factory worker—the "proletarian in figure" historically associated with the industrial working class. "The proletarian is not what it used to be, but that does not mean it is not there," wrote Michael Hardt and Antonio Negri in their book "Empire." "It means, rather, that we are faced once again with the analytical task of understanding the most oppressive of the proletariat in our time."

There seems to be no way of arresting the further emasculation of the working class except by forging new unities in different kinds, particularly at the global level. Yet, that seems almost illusory in the face of the sweeping changes in the global organization of capitalist production that banks labor everywhere into acute. The May Day tradition started with the struggle for the eight-hour day. Today's working class struggles are enormously more complex, like the withdrawal they require are the same.

public.lives@gmail.com

Giving and forgiving

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

FORGIVE! Last week I was flagged down by a waffle enforcer. Quite sure that I committed no waffle violations, and thinking that the guy was just going to ask for gizmo money, I opened my window and, with an affected smile, asked him: "Anong problema? What's my violation?"

Pointing at the roof of my car, he said: "I saw that black sunshade. I mapped you as a non-U bah."

It was my important appointment sunshade which I had left on the top of my car! It was an embarrassing and a learning moment for me. Awaiting *jeepit*

* * *

In today's Gospel (Jn. 20, 19-31) we hear of the Risen Lord's encounter with His fearful disciples, particularly the one with the doubting Thomas. Fully aware and deeply understanding of our frailty of human nature, the Lord greets them with "Peace be with you!" Seven times, more than a series of but encountered love and encouragement.

* * *

"Receive the Holy Spirit." What a giving God we have! "Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained." What a forgiving God we have! To be giving and to be forgiving are marks of an Easter people. As long as we are selfish and unforgiving, we will remain as proof that the message of the Resurrection has not yet really sunk in us.

* * *

Today is the Feast of the Divine Mercy. In the end, we, like the disciples after the Resurrection, realize that in spite of our unfaithfulness and unworthiness, God in His mercy loves and calls us, too, relying on God's mercy, we humbly and willingly say our "yes" to His call.

* * *

Today is Labor Day: the honor all who labor and not so that others may live. By our kind and loving words we honor God, we open and respect, serve others and improve whether we rest. Someone once said that service is our need to keep full-time employees to do research for them. They can now outsource this to a virtual global army of anonymous workers without having to resort to the complex labor procedures that do not have gone.

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are inspired by their well-lived lives, and praise God for them heavenly rest and reward.

* * *

Father Buenaventura, from Marilloac, Bohol, was an intellectual (four masteral's) who was neither puffed-up nor boring. Blessed with good looks and many talents, his self-opinion, again, Bohulano remained a humble and obedient son of the Divine Word. In the words of his fellow Divine Worder, Fr. Jerry Orbos, SVD: Fr. Val Dacanday SVD, "His hunger for knowledge truly fascinates me. He taught and used his talents to be one of the Catholic law judges, but never neglected the heart...a heart so easily wounded, wedding him on humility as sometimes. Friends and kindred spirits."

* * *

Today is the beatification of Pope John Paul II in Rome. What a privilege for me—as a Catholic, as a priest and as a Filipino—to have lived in his lifetime, and to have experienced his love and leadership. JP II, we love you!

* * *

The royal wedding of William and Kate with all its pomp and glamor has been seen by almost 2 billion people worldwide. The world needs more of sex and fairy again to the message that love, commitment and marriage are important, and that the church matters, and that God is alive!

* * *

We remember and honor St. Joseph, patience and perseverance on the first day of May. We also remember that May is the month of Marian feast!

* * *

See you at the Mass with God in Mandaluyong Old May 7, which will start in the Holyhock Cathedral at 6 a.m. The 13 Salvadorean thanksgiving and petition mass will end with the 11 a.m. Mass at the Shrine of Mercy.

* * *

A moment with the Lord:

Lord, help me to be giving and to be forgiving. Amen.

'Blundering idiot' or 'honest disagreements'

WITH DUE RESPECT

Antonio V. Pangalangan

normal line close to it. "Orphaned cases." If league of Dinos is Eastside 36th. 11, 2011 and April 12, 2011), the Supreme Court, by a razor thin 7-6-2 vote, reversed its earlier decision and upheld the constitutionality of the Orphaned Land, thereby allowing the Bangsamoro Basic Law to proceed. The majority of seven benefited from those two votes, namely Justices Carpio and Velasco, who had previously dissented from the constitutionality of the ARMM Organic Act but voted to uphold the constitutionality of the BBL. Without their votes, the majority would have been only five, and the BBL would have been struck down as unconstitutional.

The mercy of six let by Justice Antonio T. Carpio stated in the *ponencia*, arguing: "Each Orphaned Land and its allocation or disposition is inconsistent with the LDC," the other provisions shall continue to be in full force and effect." The clear and inescapable implication is that any provision in such Orphaned Land that is inconsistent with the LDC has been repealed by the—in short, void and ineffective. Each Orphaned Land especially and unequivocally authorized, subject to the rejection of the LGU and that in case of conflict, the LGU shall prevail over the Orphaned Land Law." (Bold emphasis supplied.)

On the same date, April 12, 2011, the Supreme Court in *Serrano v. Gimba*, voting 5-5, also reversed its earlier decision and upheld the creation of Baguio province even if it failed to comply with the 15,000 requirement for the creation of new provinces, namely, an area of at least 2,000 sq. km., or a population of at least 250,000. (The primary requirement—income of P100 million—was met.) Working for the majority, Justice Antonio Eduardo B. Nachura declared that the Baguio exception could not apply where the proposed province is composed of two or more islands.

The absence of Justices Carpio, Arturo D. Brion and Diosdado M. Peralta entered into Baguio failed to comply with both the area and population requirements. Further, the SC-approved exemption from the area requirement was void because it was issued by the Regional Trial Court, not by the appropriate House Committee on Oversight.

Collateral damage. But that is not the end-game story. Justice Carpio reasoned that "Court has the statutory right to [appeal to the Supreme Court] when a law, ordinance, or regulation is declared unconstitutional. This decision "became final after the denial of two motions for reconsideration ... by forty of judgments was made on 21 May 2009." Nonetheless, on Feb. 15, 2011, the SC reversed those facts and voted 8-4-1 (with two recusals) to overrule itself and to uphold the constitutionality of the Orphaned Lines.

Similarly, the Binagar conversion was already being implemented when, on Feb. 15, 2010, After two motions for reconsideration were denied, the decision became final. Judgments was entered on May 18, 2010. Despite these, the Court "ordered its own finality," recalled the forty-all judgments, announced and declared the conversion unconstitutional, as the decision said.

Justice Roberto A. Abad said that the decisions "tend to pioneer the Court as a silly, blundering idiot which cannot make up its mind on its own constitutional rulings." Justice Abad is to be commended for his candor, albeit disagreeable. "In 2009 alone, seven justices entered her desk replacements, using their independent discretion, did not necessarily adopt the views of their predecessors in all regional positions, almost, three of which changed sides. Given the close votes, the reversals the reflected in said these "flip-flops") would not be avoided.

"Blundering idiot" or "honest disagreements." You judge the judges.

• • •

Comments are welcome at chiefjustice@pangalangan@hotmail.com

God save the king

FOR TOMORROW, God will arrange the blood of his servants.

So said Candelaria Cardinal Rosales, archbishop of Manila. "It will be done with by Him for His will, "Whatever it may."

The rite is abortion, the purposeful death of a defenseless life. The penalty is excommunication.

Excommunication, says retired archbishop Oscar Cruz, "means that the person concerned is separated from the spiritual benefits enjoyed by all members of the Church." There will be no communion for those sinners, no sacrament of marriage or last rights. By committing abortion, by allowing its commission, a Catholic removes himself from grace, away from the maternal arms of truly Mother Church.

METHOD TO MADNESS

Patricia Evangelista

Many sometimes already allow abortion, with Catholic figure including the only major Catholic country that's made the exception. The sons to be boarded by Pope John Paul II solemnized their situations may exist when the threat to about is not selfish. He insists though "there remains and others like them, however serious and tragic, can never justify the deliberate killing of an innocent human being."

In March of 2009, the Catholic Church excommunicated a team of doctors who conducted an abortion on a 9-year-old Brazilian girl carrying twins. The girl was a victim of rape, and only discovered her pregnancy after her mother took her to the hospital for severe stomach pains. The girl's father was the culprit, and was sent to jail. The doctors discovered that the 85-pound child would not live through the birth. Her mother, who approved the proceeding, was also excommunicated.

Brazil permits abortions in cases of rape or risks to the mother's life. The archbishop of Olinda and Recife, Jose Cardoso Sobrinho, said the laws did not matter. "God's laws" declared his transgressors are longer be welcomed by the Roman Catholic Church.

Sobrinho did not excommunicate the child's rapist. He said abortion was a more serious sin than rape. The Vatican supported the stance. Cardinal Bernardin Jose Sandri, Vatican Minister for, especially after the Church publicly announced the girl's family had been punished.

The threat of excommunication has not been limited to desperate women or their families or mere doctors. In 2009, the Spanish Catholic Church announced it would excommunicate any member of the Spanish parliament who voted in favor of liberalizing abortion laws. In Mexico, where the abortion law had just been passed, reporters asked a visiting Pope Benedict XVI if he agreed with punishing pro-choice legislators in Mexico City.

Benedict replied with a yes. The point-man' excommunication was the practice of canon law "It is based simply on the principle that the killing of an innocent human child is incompatible with going in Communion with the body of Christ. This, they (the bishops) didn't do anything new or anything surprising. Or artificial."

But the Church is the keeper of Catholic doctrine. Not famously still get his Catholic initial, effectively by no less than an American archbishop, while the king of Spain is yet to be banned from Madrid's cathedrals. But the Vatican is strong, and as any Archbishop Cruz and Cardinal Rosales. There are no exceptions to the rule.

In the Philippines, state will lives and thrives in the halls of Congress, among the misguided intellectuals and adverse life. even who propose abortion via contraception. Although proponents of the Reproductive Health Bill have repeatedly denied that the RH Bill had nothing to do with the legalization of abortion, the CBCP insists it does. Among the so-called Bishop Teodoro Bacani, most of the artificial contraceptives featured in the bill are in fact abortifacients. The list they include taking pills, hormonal injections, IUDs.

Proponents of the controversial reproductive health bill are lying with their teeth, the bishops say. "Those who promote or allow abortion," says Bacani. "They said the bill is against abortion and yet the government is required to provide abortifacient techniques."

In what Presidents Aquino administered to the Bishops of the Philippines' June of 2011 that he was willing to risk excommunication for the passage of reproductive health. Instead of all excellent rite, it is expected that the Church will be forbear in their punishment. To call him arrogant, to claim he is not qualified, to insult his intelligence, to blame the malcontents of his people, to argue a failure in governance—not one of these is excommunicable. The Church has condemned has been pointed out again and again. Excommunicate him. The Pope supports it. Canon Law demands it.

It is not the first time the Church has issued empty threats. When a priest in election announced the endorsement of the RH Bill opponents by the Catholic Church, the Church issued a statement, the first act of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines was to deny the priest's endorsement, calling the news blank propaganda. In October, when Bishop Nereo Odchimar of Bontoc, Ilocano del Sur was first quoted to have said the excommunicating President Aquino may be a "premature judgment." If he continues to support the RH bill, the Church's denials come fast and furious. "The impression of the canonical sanction has not been contemplated by the CBCP."

If the CBCP were to be believed that the RH bill, or the President, is "demonic," then excommunication "does mean dying with a different ending," according to Cruz—in indeed the hyperbolism of rhetoric, why the unintelligent to impose the Church's stand on saving politicians? If the Church is unwilling to take on politicians in spite of the Pope's unambiguous, there is nothing to stop them from excommunicating every doctor who has ever performed a legal case of ECBs. Numerous Filipino Catholics are on the pill. CBCP voters God and the people a definite better than a rally outside Congress, it is, after all, a holy-not against a moral evil.

And yet the Church will not excommunicate an "abortionist" supporter of abortion because those names afford to excommunicate the providers. Neither can they confirm the economic recommendations of a majority of their already dwindling flock. They will threaten and they will condemn, but they will not suffer for their fault. The war is political and not principled. The fate of the Church's behavior points out the absence of all principle in the impunity of the Church's stand on contraception as abortion—if they themselves do not believe it, why should we?

This is written in defense of the Reproductive Health bill and others like it, all of which are compromised by the moral stain with the bishops have cast it. Their actions have not only indeed the lives of countless women. I write this as a woman who was born Catholic, who supports a woman's right to choose, and whose economic recommendations certain are a country's basic as a Manila citizen.

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After the (wedding) party

AT LARGE

Alexa Ventosa-Gastal

departing from different locales on Westside are... everything went off like clockwork.

Perhaps the Philippines should send a personal officer to London to take notes on how to put on a royal wedding. Just by watching the last three and a half hours on a comparable time zone, when P-Noy was inaugurated president, and the mother and marrying that attended it, filmmaker the early arrival of Vice President Jejomar Binay (the only other Filipino guests that we understand exist) essential members that gave the inaugural the air of a prep concert, and the tender and cold chronicles that everyone involved had planned meticulously.

We can gather larger crowds, wear more spectacular costumes and confer the rest of the world by sheer number of singers making boy's to high heavens. But one no surpasses the newcomers' precision, discipline and flair for the dramatic. Even with P-Noy's 11 very much modern.

• • •

STILL, all announcements the world over observed, the royal wedding was the one we were on an affair. Princess Diana, whose not been an unsung entertainer in her, reportedly his dewpaids offshore seats, was present in almost every detail of the wedding.

She was there in the engagement ring that William presented his fiancée, and she was there in Kate's decision to enter the world "okay" from her wrist. Even Kate's choice of blooms in her bouquet—lily of the valley, myrtle and the Hand-tied white flowers—had Diana's touch. Kate's choice of bloomy in her wedding, while her somewhat names gown was perhaps a reunion to all the flounces and lace from that Diana wore.

But from all, she was there because she lived in her sons' hearts and even by the public that had been reassured of her far-minute she emerged as the future bride of Prince's future king. Now her son was getting married, and her absence from his side underscored not just her tragic loss at such a young age, but even more painfully, her irretrievable and the way she brought up her two sons.

The bride is dead, long live the bride. Mrs. Mountbatten have inherited the throne of Diana's life, and from the large now-and-different parks from those Diana once knew.

• • •

IT'S THE first day of May, the month of flowers, so it's only fitting that we mark the day with an appreciation of a few Inquirer columnists. Pioneer women Mamerto Pineda-Ho Studio, in cooperation with Gig and the Amazing Sampaguita Foundation Inc. (Gmfi), is accepting stories until May 31 from women who are Inquirer columnists and members of gamer's duties by their best physicians of the lovely fragrant Sampaguita.

Entries can be photos of the Sampaguita blooms and garlands, the tutoring of flowers, crown kids, and the Sampaguita being sold in the streets by street children or women, or "anything that stirs the imagination about the national flower." Entries will be judged by outstanding in these criteria: overall concept, creativity, photography and composition. All pictures must be taken with digital film (no CD), as well as black-and-white photographs. Send entries to Pineda-Ho Studio, Rm. 107, LRI Design Plaza, 2330 Nicanor Garcia St., Bel-Air II, Makati City.

For inquiries call 8901767, 9065098, 9915-2200/304, or email mandy@ateneo.edu. Winners will be announced on June 15 at the Sampaguita Festival, coinciding more information.

Can East Asians cooperate?

WORLD VIEW

Yoon Young-kwan

HONOLULU—All China continues to intensify its list, people throughout East Asia are wondering whether their region will ever be able to achieve the peace that has long been the norm in Europe. Given the regularity of serious diplomatic spats—over everything from the strife in the South China Sea to the legacy of World War II—this may sound like an elusive dream. But it is indispensable for the region's long-term prosperity and peaceful development.

The "liberal" view of international relations maintains that economic interdependence, through integration, deeper economic interdependence, and viable institutions through which East Asian states can conduct their affairs in a multilateral arena. Because economic interdependence means that states with democratic political systems will be in fight with each other, democracy should be encouraged in order to create peace.

The "realist" view is that peace in Asia has long been established on American foreign policymaking, but European states have, since 1945, made tremendous progress in their integration. Asia has had a long history of political tensions, making such a democratic consensus highly unlikely, at least for now.

On the other hand, economic interdependence among East Asian states has been deepening. Yet the rise of China's economic power and the relative decline of Asian states's weight vis-à-vis the state would bring massive benefits to participating countries. Significant policymakers possibly see trade as the engine of economic growth.

Economic interdependence in East Asia gained momentum following the Asian financial crisis of 1997-1998. But confrontation between the United States and China, the United States and Japan, and China and Japan over the past year have left many wondering whether economic interdependence alone can bring about stable regional relations.

The third school of thought is power-centered. Using international relations terms to explain how the behavior of states through a system of norms and rules, theorists creating order (and power) out of quasi-anarchy. Such thinking motivated 20 President Woodrow Wilson's desire to establish the League of Nations after World War I and President Franklin Roosevelt's push to create the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions after World War II.

Likewise, East Asian states accept the common norms and rules of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and any misuse of force would be regulated by them. Indeed, the Asia-Pacific region is the only area of long, sustained relative peace among countries with nuclear weapons.

In normal circumstances, East Asia is composed of states that are culturally different in terms of their size, development, and political experiences. Yet, that those peculiarities understood that there is less than they can do—to solve their neighbor's political systems. So can they do much to accelerate or to deepen economic interdependence in the short term.

So it is natural for the region's policymakers to focus more on common institutions, and how the economic integration can be deepened. Japan's Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ) government has long favored Japanese, like other DPJ, made economic integration with China a key policy objective. But those policymakers understood that there is less than they can do—to solve their neighbor's political systems. So can they do much to accelerate or to deepen economic interdependence in the short term.

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Begin with the earliest phase of the region's economic integration, the one focused on nuclear safety. A coming summit between South Korea, China and Japan on May 21-22 in Tokyo will focus on nuclear safety and prepare a regime for closer regional cooperation.

With the nuclear power plants currently operating in South Korea, Japan and China, the importance of nuclear safety is obvious. What would happen if any of those countries nuclear plants similar to those at Fukushima? Moreover, North Korea has been running its long-term nuclear factory without international inspection. According to the IAEA, North Korea has produced enough for 20 more atomic bombs. Japan's economic interdependence in the short term.

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Project Syndicate

Yoon Young-kwan, South Korea's foreign minister in 2003-2004, is currently a professor of international relations at Seoul National University.

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Edna Juan V. Bermudez Jr.

WORKERS prepare fish for packing at a factory in General Santos City, known as the tuna capital of the Philippines

LABOR SITUATION

Job security eludes 'endo' workers

By Jenica Mata and David Dizo

A SPECTER is haunting the worker's anniversary as it celebrates Labor Day today—the specter of "end of contract" (endo) and low minimum wages. Endo (not his real name) works as a computer-aided machine operator in a big auto plant at the Laguna Technopark. He is 23 years old, single, a college graduate and a native of Biñan, Laguna.

Minimum and living wages

Region	Minimum wage*	Living wage**
NCR	404	937
CAR	330-372	880
Region I	330-350	880
Region II	327-345	798
Region III	345-414	960
Region III-A	362-365	960
Region III-B	312-384	809
Region IV	364-382	782
Region IV-A	340-396	913
Region IV-B	298	673
Region V	331	673
Region VI	364-398	913
Region VII	386	783
Region VIII	350	783
Region IX	345	no data available
ARMM	331	1,222

*Source: NWPC, 2011
**Source: Family Income and Expenditure Survey 2006 (Adjusted to 2011 prices using CPI) and Consumer Expenditure Survey 2009 (Adjusted to 2011 prices using CPI)

What is a living wage?

LIVING wage is the amount of family income needed to provide for the family's food and nonfood expenditures.

The National Wages and Productivity Commission says the living wage should have sufficient allowance for savings and income transfer for social security to enable a family of six to live and maintain a decent standard of living in dignity.

Labor force profile
(January 2011)

Population (15 yrs and above)	61,020,000
Labor force	38,186,000
Employment rate	89.10 %
Employed	34,026,000
Unemployment rate	7.40 %
Unemployed	2,826,000
Underemployment rate	19.60 %
Underemployed	7,004,000

Source: NSO

Employed workers by sector
(January 2011)

Agriculture	11,300,000
Industry	5,284,000
Services	16,011,000

Source: NSO

Living with his parents and two brothers, Endo is the family's main bread winner. He gives his days to work, from Monday to Saturday, for a minimum pay of P337 a day or P8,762 a month. He works as a contractual worker and his five-month contract will end four months.

Latest buzzword

End of contract or endo is the latest buzzword of choice for workers who stay on a job not longer than five months before he is the a fired and hired again for another five months and so on. Endos are paid the prevailing minimum wages—the factory they are from Manila, the lower the pay.

Some touched contract workers in a company that produces glass disks. A high school graduate from Samar, she is the "typical" factory hire who comes to Manila looking for the proverbial greener pasture. She is 20 years old, single and now lives in Laguna close to the factory where she works. She sends money to her family for the provision to help her parents put her two siblings to school.

Jesse, like Endo, is also a contractual worker. She works on a 12-hour shift, earning P400 a day. If she works for only eight hours, she gets the minimum rate of P337, minus the usual deductions for state financing to the Social Security System, Philhealth and the Pag-Ibig Fund.

She spends P217 a day for food, people's fares, utility bills and for board and lodging. That leaves her less than a P100 when worked eight hours a day. That drives her to work beyond hours to earn an additional P150 for overtime work, or leaving her to buy a new set of clothes every year, the only luxury in the cost offset.

Pitiful life

Last year, a local union of the International Textile, Garments and Leather Workers Federation conducted a survey of incomes and expenditures of workers in big and medium-size garment factories to as support pioneering union in Cavite. Results of the study showed an even lower and pitiful life for our minimum wage workers.

In fact interviews, assets and future were asked how much they were paid to ask only many workers and where they spent their money.

The minimum wage in the area at the time of the survey was P289 a day for an eight-hour work. A majority of the informants were women, single and the sole wage earner in the family.

Extrapolating from the data, the study found that the average weekly spending for food and nonfood items was P1,068 or a total family expenditure of P6,672 a month. The total wage income for a the day workweek was P1,788 or a monthly income of P7,152.

That leaves the extra cash of P480a month or P16a day have to enough for rent, electric and water bills or a cup of coffee. Hardly anything is left for medications, diapers or contact.

The study reality is clear: the minimum wage is barely enough to feed a family of five. In order to survive, a factory worker, especially if single or married, must earn twice the prevailing minimum wage to be able to buy food and provide for other equally important family needs.

Two breadwinners

Armed differently at the current minimum wage there must be at least two breadwinners for a family of five or six to keep body and soul intact.

Endo works for a big auto car parts manufacturer. Some months in a big glass factory under the auspices of a manpower agency. Our female sources work for a number of manufacturing companies in the proceeding years.

They all work under different employers in different industries and workplaces. They all have been doing in common: they are all contractual workers paid below the minimum wage.

Typical worker

The typical minimum wage worker is young, female, unmarried and single. She comes from the province, is a lone income earner in a family of five or six and is a contractual. In other words, she belongs to the working poor.

The minimum wages today are only a little above the poverty threshold. That is true for workers in the export processing zones as it is for the rest of the country. If minimum wage earners find it hard to cope with the demands of daily living, how difficult is it for those whose income are below the minimum wage?

Poverty statistics are generated by the government every three years. The last poverty estimate was recorded for 2009. Estimates are made for families or individuals. The standard measurement assumes a family of five. Anyone whose income falls below the poverty threshold is considered poor.

In 2009, the poverty threshold for a family of five was estimated at P5,906. If finds or Aimo works only from Monday to Friday he or she gets a gross pay of P7,434. Clearly, before the poverty threshold.

There are 3.8 million workers who are directly covered by the minimum wage law. They are wage and salary earners who work for an employer or participate in voluntary arrangements under National Wages and Productivity Commission.

If minimum wage workers earn below or a little above the poverty threshold there are cue conclusion that many of them are poor.

There is another disturbing fact. A big number of the labor force is not covered by the minimum wage law.

Unpaid family workers

These are the unpaid family workers and the self-employed who comprise 64 percent of the labor force of 37.9 million in 2010. Largely outside the protection of labor laws, they work in precarious conditions and are vulnerable to all kinds of abuses, including nonpayment of minimum wage.

This limited coverage and inequality low wage levels have made the minimum wage law a favorite target of criticism. To some critics, employers and some people in government, workers complain that it is a poverty wage.

The employers say the minimum wage is high that they can no longer afford it. The government's main line labor justice of its unintended consequences. It is now prepared to introduce a three-bracket system.

The problems associated with a minimum wage regime are enormous.

Exemptions

The issue of poor coverage is only one. Another is the issue on exemptions. There are numerous that avail themselves of the exemption clause every time a new wage order is issued. The exemptions are very broad, including company applications on a whole cluster of industry groups like exporters and those whose source are less than P5 million.

An equitable minimum wage system is one that can apply to as many workers as possible. Minimum wage systems are tools to distribute wealth and close help reduce poverty.

280 wage rates

Republic Act No. 6727, the law that created the regional wage fixing mechanism, instead of one nationwide minimum wage, is a system of 17 regional minimum wages, in whatever. It was billed to live up to its mandate of streamlining wage setting in the country.

Instead, it created layers of minimum wage rates in the 16 regions and in the National Capital Region to more as 40 wage orders in as many cities or municipalities.

Union coverage
(as of March 2011)

Unionized workers	1,736,000
Private sector unions	1,343,000
Public sector unions	393,000
Workers' associations	59,000
Workers with CBAs	519,000
Workers with CBAs	33,847*

*Source: Bureau of Labor and Employment Statistics

There was a time when there were almost a thousand wage rates all over the country. Today, the number has been reduced to about 280.

Problems of equity

A largely differentiated wage scale even in one region creates problems of implementation. Not only workers but also employers are at sea on what rate to enforce in an area close enough to each other. Somehow it creates problems of equity.

Cainta, for instance, which borders Pasig City and Quezon City, is part of Region IV-A where minimum wage is P337. But Quezon City and Pasig City are part of Metro Manila where minimum wage rate is P404.

A factory on one side of the street in Cainta would invariably pay less to its workers compared with the one on the other side which happens to be in Metro Manila.

This is replicated in the provinces of Batangas, Cavite and Laguna where contiguous municipalities draw wage rates from different wage rates. The minimum wage in San Pedro, Laguna, is P337 but a few kilometers away across from the South Luzon Expressway, in Calamba, Laguna, where the minimum wage is P313.

Floor wage

Even the concept of what a minimum wage is undergone drastic change. Previously, the minimum wage was considered the lowest remuneration an employer can pay a worker. This is the concept of the floor wage.

Today, the minimum wage has become the prevailing wage. What used to be a floor wage is now considered the highest salary bracket.

Alternative wage setting

The Coalition for Labor Agenda calls for a complete overhaul of the minimum wage setting process in the country. There is a need for an alternative wage-setting mechanism.

The ideal situation is a nationwide minimum wage with no exceptions. On top of the minimum wage is a rate determined through collective bargaining at the industry, sectoral and the firm level. This will require reorganizing of workers' bargaining power by removing contractualization and restrictions.

But the bigger question is, why are so many workers trapped taking such minimum wages? Don't because of massive unemployment and underemployment.

Put as long as the economy is unable to create decent and productive work for all, large numbers of workers will be encouraged to low pay, substandard working conditions, employment without job security, etc. In other words, grinding poverty.

John cannot be ensured minimum income, in a literate agricultural and a fully developed fisheries and manufacturing industry. The economy's inability to develop is due to the lack of a coherent industrial development plan. And yet, all administrations since the fall of the marcos dictatorship took a headlong dash toward trade liberalization that left our agriculture and industry in tatters.

Jobless growth

Growth alone does not guarantee employment creation. Despite modern economic growth, the country is saddled with unemployment and underemployment continued to increase. This is called the phenomenon of jobless growth.

There is no other choice. The country needs a progressive administration in the country pushes our workers to go abroad, which leads to brain drain.

This Labor Day the Coalition for Labor Agenda will present to the Aquino administration to make use of its popular mandate, walk the talk on removal to broken contractual point and give the millions of Filipino workers a new and better deal, especially the working poor.

Workers need a wage adjustment but the more important thing for them and the country is to be given the chance to work and development. End poverty wages and ensure job security.

Liloan Mata is the secretary general of the Alliance of Progressive Labor (APL) while David Dizo is the national president of the National Labor Union (NLU). APL and NLU belong to the Coalition for Labor Agenda, a group of labor unions, national federations, industry unions and workers' associations formed last year to present an "18-Point Labor Reform Agenda" to then presidential candidate Benigno Aquino III. Other members of the coalition include Kongreso ng Pagkakaisa ng Manggagawa sa Pilipinas, Mangagawa Para sa Bayan, Automotive Industry Workers Alliance, Confederation of Independent Unions in the Public Sector, National Union of Workers in Hotel Restaurants and Allied Services, and National Federation of Labor Unions.)

Feast of The Divine Mercy

May 1, 2011

(First Sunday after Easter, which is now designated in the Church's liturgical books as the Second Sunday of Easter)

I. Beginning with Good Friday as a preparation for the Feast of Mercy according to our Lord's express wish, it is greatly recommended to give honor to the Divine Mercy, in answer to Jesus' claim and appeal, by offering the Novena to the Divine Mercy for the conversion of the whole world and that the Divine Mercy will be known so that everyone will extol Christ' goodness.

II. To the celebration of the Feast of the Divine Mercy, Jesus attached an extraordinary promise:

"To those who go to Confession days before or on the Feast and receive Holy Communion on the day of the Feast of the Divine Mercy and participate in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment."

JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU

(Make this a permanent devotion in your life to attain salvation for you and your loved ones.)

The Chaplet of The Divine Mercy

(for private recitation on ordinary rosary beads)

Begin with: Our Father... Hail Mary... I believe in God ...

On the OUR FATHER beads: Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

On the HAIL MARY beads: For the sake of His sorrowful Passion have mercy on us and on the whole world.

CONCLUDE with: Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world. (3 times) Amen.

3 O'clock Prayer

"You died Jesus, but the source of life flowed out for souls and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world."

"O Fountain of Life, immeasurable Divine Mercy, cover the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us."

"O Blood and Water which flowed out from the heart of Jesus as a Fountain of Mercy for us, I trust in You!"

"Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and the whole world." (3x) Amen.

Jesus King of Mercy we trust in You!

Boils, bloated bellies if gov't, Reds break word

By Delon Cabaa
Inquirer Northern Luzon

LUCUB, Abra—The negotiating panels of the government and the National Democratic Front (NDF) held their first joint consecutive consultation during last week's Cordillera Day celebrations, observing insights about social problems they could tackle from the region's representative cultures.

The consultation was concluded with a Maeng ritual ritual called "Sagsagan," which buried NDF consultant Rodolfo Baylosis and government peace negotiator Edicar Dapongbitang in their stead.

Irene Tambeza, Bibo town elder, assured that Baylosis and Dapongbitang risked growing boils and drooling with unusually distended stomachs if they broke their oaths.

Invading ancestral lands

The Cordillera Peoples Alliance (CPA) and the party-list group Kambas organized the consultations to coincide with the 37th celebration of Cordillera Day.

They brought together Baylosis and Dapongbitang who traveled for five hours through rough roads and crossed two rivers to reach Barangay Basang from the capital of Pasaquad.

The Cordillera key participants said strong resolutions asked the government to discuss how a peace agreement would prevent large scale mines from invading ancestral lands.

The latest round of peace negotiations began on Feb. 15 in Oslo, Norway and was continued to discuss up to Comprehensive Agreement on Socio-Economic Reforms (Caser). The initial talks in 1998 had resulted in the Comprehensive Agreement on the Respect for Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law (CARHRIHL).

Baylosis said Caser would address the roots of the armed conflict.

Under Caser, we want ancestral lands returned to indigenous (IP) [ethnic] and [we want to] stop the entry of destructive projects such as large-scale mining," he said.

He also urged a revision of the Indigenous Peoples Rights Act of 1997 which he noted was being violated.

"Basic services such as water, food, health and infrastructure should be addressed. Indigenous peoples' rights and cultures should be respected. They should not be discriminated against and the ancestral lands should not be militarized," he said.

Dapongbitang told the crowd: "We support the opposition to large-scale mining. Although President Aquino wants to promote large-scale mining, he would follow the people if they do not want [corporate mining]."

Continued, the elders proceeded with the Sagsagan ceremony by chanting a prayer to their ancestors before they asked their guests to partake of "feast" at cano cogar wine and to each grasp a spear as a sign that they agree to the terms of the ceremony.

Bagiwas—a term for curse

In Cordillera tradition, the bagiwas—a Maeng term for curse—is performed by two tribes-the negotiator-peace panel. The ritual requires the tribes to slaughter a chicken before they share the wine and untwist the pact by grasping their spears or "peniarti."

"If those two members of the negotiating panel will not fulfill their promise, their comrades will harbour," Tambeza said in Ibaloi.

"Drinking the last session they express their sincerity. There had been sessions in the past in which the ritual part was broken and people got sick. It may not be scientific, but [the story has been repeated by generations] so this is not just a ritual," Tinbeza said.

CPA officials said the tribes mean business.

"This is a message [sent] by tribes that should be taken seriously because the elders are taking it seriously. We negotiated [the peace consultation because we want peace, but if] the agreements would not be honored, armed struggle would continue," said Windel Bolinget, CPA chair.

"There are genuine sentiments coming from the people from the grassroots, the indigenous peoples who are here represent the basic masses which the Caser wants to address," said former Bayan Muna Rep. Satur Ocampo, a former NDF spokesperson, who joined the consultation.

Senator Ginbig a 43-year-old farmer of the Tangging Gabo to Lubuagan, Kalinga, said bringing social services to the provinces would end the rebellion.

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Raps filed vs tribesmen who abducted teachers, students

By Marlon Ramos

POLICE have filed criminal charges against five Manobo tribesmen, including a datu leader who is now already in jail, for holding hostage 15 school officials, students and residents of an upland village in Prospecidad, Agusan del Sur, early last month, a police official said yesterday.

Charged with kidnapping with serious illegal detention in the Agusan del Sur prosecutor's office were datu Bainel Tribal leader Onda Perez, his brothers Bail and Bit-kit Perez, their cousin Bey Joy Bridal and Dodong Inlong.

Senior Insp. Jessore Bacaltos, Agusan police director, said the police decided to include Onda Perez as an accused after statements could be commenced with the hostage-takers before and during the five-day hostage crisis.

Forced to free Onda

"Our investigation showed he masterminded and planned the hostage, taking to force the authorities to free Jose Pinto, the Agusan provincial jail," said Bacaltos in a phone interview.

In his statement after government forces rescued the last 12 hostages in the barangay of Barangay La Paraiso on April 6, Perez, Jose Agcino thanked Onda for helping in the peaceful resolution of the standoff.

An Agusan regional trial court judge had allowed the temporary release of Onda to allow him to help the local crisis management committee negotiate with the armed Manobo rebels.

But Bacaltos said it was actually Onda who had instructed his brothers to abduct the victims to have a bargaining chip for his release.

He said the tribal leader had access to mobile phones which enabled him to speak to his followers while he was in prison.

"That's why we reminded the jail officials in Agusan to monitor Onda Perez because inmates are not supposed to have cellular phones," Bacaltos said the hostages.

Faking his age

Bacaltos said that despite reports that he was a minor, the police pressed charges against Bridal, said to be only 17, after they received information the suspect was only "faking" his age to avoid arrest.

He noted that both Bridal and Bit-kit, 18, were with Onda when they held hostage 79 residents of Barangay Mainan, also in Prospecidad, in December 2009.

"We're having difficulty developing his real age because he does not have birth records which is common among the Manobo tribe," he said. "It's up to him to prove to the court that he's still a minor."

Led by Bit-kit, the suspects ordered the school officials, students and residents at gunpoint shortly after the victims attended a graduation ceremony in a remote forest on April 1.

The group later released four of the hostages in exchange for water and food supplies. They abandoned the remaining captives five days later.

Since the hostage crisis, Bacaltos said more police reserves and soldiers had been deployed to the area to avoid a repeat of the incident and to run after the hostage-takers.

He said they were also coordinating with the leaders of the Manobo and other local tribes to ensure that their members were resolved within the bounds of the law.

Sulu restaurateur kidnapped

ZAMBOANGA—Al-Qaeda-linked militants have kidnapped the owner of one of the oldest and most popular restaurants in Sulu, the military has reported.

Operations chief Asst. Senator of the Sulu provincial police said night Abu Sayyaf gunmen seized 56-year-old Nelson Ging at gunpoint. Friday outside his residence and dragged him into a van in the provincial capital of Jolo.

Regional military spokesperson Lt. Col. Randolph Cabangbang said Saturday the vehicle was recovered in nearby Indanan township by troops pursuing the gunmen.

Intl. Banks and European Union lists of terrorist organizations. $1 million bounty have been training Filipino soldiers battling the Abu Sayyaf, which is notorious for ransom kidnappings, beheadings and bombings. AP

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National Museum Grand Stairways
May 1
Misa Cantada – Puerta Church of Manila
Simbang de las Desamparados,
Sta. Ana, Manila, 6pm
May 5-8
Bacoor Marching Band Festival
Bacoor, Cavite Plaza
May 13-15
2nd Tiam-ayon International Arts Festival
Chanum Foundation, Baguio City
May 16-22
Pilgrimage on the UNESCO
and NCT Churches
Filipino Heritage Festival, Inc.
May 17-21
Angat Kamalayan sa Bohol
Society of Ecclesiastical
Archivists of the Philippines
May 27-29
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MR. OGIE ALCASID

Time to revisit Building Code, says DENR chief

By Kristine L. Alave

ENVIRONMENT Secretary Ramon Paje has called for a review of the country's Building Code in light of the strong earthquake that hurt the Indo-Pacific region recently.

In a statement, Paje said the Building Code should be updated to ensure that infrastructure and buildings can withstand strong tremors.

The code should also follow the latest Engineering Geological and Geohazard Assessment Report (Egear) that was completed last year, he said.

The report shows the areas of the country that are located on or near earthquake fault lines and which are prone to floods and landslides.

"The series of strong earthquakes that jolted Japan, Haiti, Chile and New Zealand should give us an impetus to go revisit our Building Code to determine if it needs some updating," Paje said.

He noted that the country was vulnerable to geologic and natural hazards like earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and violent mass earth movements because of its geographic, geologic and tectonic setting.

In March, northern Japan was rocked by a magnitude-9 earthquake that generated a tsunami which (tremor) villages along coastal areas. Last January, a strong earthquake rattled Christchurch, New Zealand, also subduction countries, including the Philippines, sit on the Pacific "Ring of Fire" of volcanoes and fault lines.

The Egear should be scrutinized a basis for approving local development projects to ensure that recommendations in the Egear are complied with during the construction phase.

Paje has also directed the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) to integrate the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) System required under Presidential Decree No. 1586.

Following the landslide that buried the Cherry Hills subdivision in Antipolo City in August 1999, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) issued Administrative Order No. 2000-28 to address the effects or impacts of geologic hazards on people's lives and properties, Paje said.

The DENR order sets the guidelines on engineering geological and geohazard assessment as additional requirements for ECC applications covering subdivision, housing and other land development and infrastructure projects.

Private hangars, flight schools may be transferred to Cavite

By Paolo G. Montecillo

THE GOVERNMENT is considering moving all flight schools and private plane hangars to Sanglay Point in Cavite to help decongest Manila's runways.

Sanglay Point, formerly a United States naval facility, is currently being used by the Philippine Navy.

The Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC) said Sanglay was one of the government's options to house general aviation operations currently housed at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (Naia) complex.

"I've already discussed this with (Defense) Secretary (Voltaire) Gazmin and it's a possibility," said Transportation Secretary Jose de Jesus.

Congestion on Naia's runways has led to constant flight delays of as long as 60 minutes, usually with planeloads of passengers sitting idle on the tarmac as the country's premier international airport.

"Private planes and flight schools occupy a lot of space and they take even longer to take off or land than commercial planes," De Jesus pointed out.

Naia was designed to handle 35 takeoffs and landings per hour. However, due to congestion, air traffic personnel are forced to handle more than twice this number, especially during peak periods of the day.

De Jesus said the government was still considering whether or not to privatize Sanglay Point.

The Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines (CAAP) earlier suggested that flight schools and private plane owners move their operations to provincial airports.

This would help decongest Manila and increase revenues of the secondary airports, which the CAAP operates.

At the moment, flight schools and private hangar operators use the Manila International Airport Authority (Miaa) for the space they can rent for hangars.

The government is also in the process of expanding Naia as the premier airport with the Diosdado Macapagal International Airport (DMIA) in Clark, Pampanga, which has better runways.

DMIA also has more space for expansion, unlike Naia, which is located in the middle of the metropolis. However, replacing Naia, which until handles 50 percent of all air traffic in the country, will take at least a few years.

Deputy ombudsman nominations open

THE POSITION of deputy ombudsman for Luzon is now up for grabs.

The Judicial and Bar Council said it was accepting applications or recommendations for the post which became vacant following the resignation early in April of its last occupant, Mark E. Jalandoni.

The JBC said those interested may file their applications or recommendations not later than May 9, 2011, either by mail, fax (721-9588) or e-mail jbc_secretariat@yahoo.com.

"Those who applied before this vacancy was declared open must manifest in writing their continuing interest once before the said deadline. In case of recommendations, the recommendees must signify their acceptance either in the recommendation letter itself or in a separate document," the JBC said.

Non-applicants or recommendees must submit on or before May 13 the following documentary requirements, namely, 10 copies of their personal data sheet, transcript of school records and certificates of admission to the bar, and one copy of their income tax returns for the past two years, and 2011 clearances from the National Bureau of Investigation, Office of the Ombudsman and the Philippine National Police.

Jeromie Aning

Merci's successor can undo Garcia plea bargain

By Leila B. Salaverria

THE RESIGNATION of Ombudsman Gutierrez could undo one of the Office of the Ombudsman's controversial documents under her watch: the plea bargain with former military comptroller Carlos Garcia.

This was according to former Special Prosecutor Dennis Villa-Ignacio, who has vocally opposed the plea bargain on Garcia's plunder case.

As long as the Sandiganbayan has not made a definite ruling on the approval of the deal, the new Ombudsman could "nullify it, withdraw [it], and then move for the reinstatement of the original charge of plunder," Villa-Ignacio said yesterday in a phone interview when asked about the implications of Gutierrez's resignation on the plea bargain.

Gutierrez signed on Feb. 23, 2010, the plea bargain with Garcia, under which he was allowed to plead guilty to direct bribery and facilitating money laundering. He has since been granted bail and has also agreed to turn over P101.455 million worth of assets to the government.

The Sandiganbayan's second division says the plea bargain has not yet been approved, while the Office of the Solicitor General insists that the deal was virtually approved in light of Garcia's having released on plead guilty to lesser offenses and granted bail.

2 Ombudsmen

Villa-Ignacio said that if it were up to him, he would rather have President Aquino appoint two heads of the Office of the Ombudsman—one to serve the rest of Gutierrez's unexpired term, which would end in December 2012, and the other to serve a fresh seven-year term.

He said this would save Gutierrez's replacement from the controversy over the duration of his or her term.

"The new appointee [after Gutierrez] could be given a fresh term of seven years, but it could still be questioned," he noted.

Gutierrez's seven years was questioned, with some contending that she should have retired in 2009, the actual end of the term of Ombudsman Simeon Marcelo, who had resigned and whom she replaced.

But Gutierrez countered that when she was appointed late in 2003, she got a seven-year term.

No conversations

Gutierrez's spokesperson, Jaclyne Jomoc Jojeda, said that she had not sought any conversation from Malacañang, and that there was no quid pro quo, where the quit.

Jojeda said what was foremost in Gutierrez's mind was that in resigning, her family would be spared mental anguish and the nation could focus on more important things.

He also said Gutierrez only asked that her security detail be retained.

As to criticism that her resignation was an admission of culpability, he said Gutierrez continued to firmly believe that the charges against her were baseless.

IN THE KNOW

THE OFFICE of the Ombudsman filed a total of 1,106 cases against ranking government officials before the Sandiganbayan from the time Ombudsman Gutierrez assumed office in December 2003 up to December 2009.

It also filed 2,615 cases against public officials and government employees in the regular courts within the period. They were the graft or various offenses such as anomalous dealings and misconduct, among others.

The number of filed before the Sandiganbayan included 519 cases filed in 2008, 15 in 2007, 61 in 2006 and 189 in 2005.

Of these, only 233 cases resulted in convictions under Gutierrez, according to Sandiganbayan records. The number does not include the acquittals in cases filed by Gutierrez's predecessors.

Of the cases, a total of 221 were filed against only one official—a mayor in Quezon who had issued permits to transport forest products and was found guilty of usurpation of functions of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

In 2008, 212 government officials were charged with administrative cases by the Ombudsman, 103 of which were dismissed from office.

In 2007, 1,81 0 were suspended, 8 fined, 27 reprimanded and 1 demoted. Among those suspended were two mayors and eight of their subordinates and several officials of the Department of Public Works and Highways for their alleged involvement in the controversial P345-million decorative lamposts in Cebu.

In 2008, 1,481 officials and employees were sanctioned, 286 were dismissed.

In 2005, at least 685 were sanctioned, including 175 who were dismissed.

In the same year, the Ombudsman directed the Office of the President to suspend Postal Security System president Romulo Neri for at least six months for his role in the National Broadband Network deal with China's ZTE Corp.

But the Court of Appeals issued a 60-day temporary restraining order on the Ombudsman order. In May 20 10 the Ombudsman finally filed graft charges in the Sandiganbayan against Neri along with former Commission on Elections Chair Benjamin Abalos Sr.

In July 2010, the Ombudsman ordered the 6-month suspension without pay of six Comelec officials accused of involvement in the P130-million ballot secrecy folders scandal.

Last February, the Ombudsman ordered the preventive suspension of six subordinate officials over the allegedly irregular procurement of missiles for students. *Inquirer Research*

Sources: Office of the Ombudsman, Inquirer Archives

Aquino to appoint 'Ombudsman of the nation' to replace Gutierrez

By Christine O. Avendaño

GUTIERREZ Family would be spared turmoil anguish

PRESIDENT Aquino will appoint an "Ombudsman of the nation" to replace the newly resigned Merceditas Gutierrez, Malacañang said yesterday.

Speaking on government radio, the President's deputy spokesperson stressed Palace was selective process on the call of Catholic bishops for Mr. Aquino to appoint someone worthy of the position of Ombudsman.

"We need not say that we will appoint someone fit for the job and with the necessary qualifications such as integrity. We have been saying for a long time now that the Ombudsman we need is a true Ombudsman of the nation," Valte said.

Presidential Spokesperson Abad said Malacañang was likely to take the Department of Justice's (DOJ) earlier position that the next Ombudsman would serve a full term of seven years.

He also said that under the same Ombudsman's Act, Mr. Aquino has three months to make the appointment.

"But I don't think it's going to take that long. The President wants to proceed with the closure of many cases," Abad told the Inquirer in a phone interview.

JBC starting search

He said those included a number of cases that tested the Arroyo administration, which Mr. Aquino wanted investigated, such as the euro bonds, the "Hello Garci" election fraud scandal, the scuttled NBN-ZTE deal, and the "ruwy generals" controversy.

Valte said the President had directed the Judicial and Bar Council (JBC) "to start the process of determining the next Ombudsman."

She said the JBC would set a certain period to receive nominations and applications, screen the candidates, and transmit the shortlist to Malacañang.

Asked whether Mr. Aquino already had someone in mind for the job, Valte said the President was "a cautious person" and had not mentioned anyone.

As for the qualities that the President was looking for in the prospective appointee, she cited, among others, a body of work that would prove the person's legal expertise, integrity, and the will and desire to fight corruption.

She also said Malacañang had to also fill up the vacancies by two deputy ombudsmen.

Nothing personal

Abad, who was present at his deputy's meeting with Gutierrez last Friday in Malacañang, described the meeting as "cordial."

"The Ombudsman was concerned that the President was taking the whole thing personally but [he] was emphatic that there was nothing personal in pursuing this issue," Abad recalled.

He said Malacañang had not expected Gutierrez to "suddenly make up her mind" to resign with the planned start of the trial, May 9, just around the corner.

But he disclosed that long before Gutierrez's impeachment by the House of Representatives, there had been Palace initiatives to talk to the Ombudsman—"the idea being that [maybe] she can be convinced to resign early on to prevent the process."

Abad acknowledged that the President's active pursuit of Gutierrez's removal from office somehow prompted her to quit.

"If you are the President and very determined in pursuing that direction, you can be [perceived] because the determination was clearly evident when the House voted to impeach her," he said.

He added that Gutierrez's decision to resign was "the best development" because there was "no guarantee" that the impeachment trial would be over in one or even two years.

Not interested

Justice Secretary Leila de Lima, who has had an exchange of words in the media with Gutierrez, dismissed rumors that she was interested in the latter's job.

"Honestly, I have no such plan or aspiration," she said in a text message.

De Lima said she was "extremely focused" on her work at the DOJ, the challenges she was facing, "as well as other related responsibilities as part of President Aquino's Cabinet."

"I'm happy where I am now, serving the Presidency and the country," she said. With a report from Marlon Ramos

Why Merci surrendered

From page A1

of Dara Presidential and now Pampanga Rep. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo in 2004.

Tejano said the prosecutors were still finalizing arrangements with the potential witnesses when Gutierrez resigned.

"She probably sensed that every ounce of her resolve all break would testify against her," he said.

Gutierrez presented the letter of resignation, to take effect on May 15, to President Aquino on Friday. In a press conference later in the day, she said she met to spare Congress and the nation a "long-drawn out" impeachment trial.

But Tejano made light of Gutierrez's statement, saying: "She could have resigned in the first instance, especially during the time of ... always, if she were really sincere."

He said the testimonies of the potential witnesses would have proven "deliberate intention" and direct orders from Gutierrez to block the inquiry into the fertilizer fund scam.

The Office of the Ombudsman ordered on April 15 the filing of plunder charges against Lisa "Dior" Lorenzo and Jocelyn Soc-Asc" Bolante, former agriculture secretary and undersecretary, respectively, and several others in connection with the fertilizer fund scam.

But critics said the belated filing of the plunder case was meant to save Gutierrez from being convicted in her impeachment trial.

Strong evidence

Tejano said that while Gutierrez's resignation was a result of a combination of many factors, the key was the strength of the prosecution panel's evidence and the growing public support of her impeachment.

He said the panel was relieved that Gutierrez resigned before the trial. But he added that he was personally disappointed because the trial could have been an opportunity for the people to know the details of the issues.

Tejano said the panel was confident of the strength of its evidence because many lawyers had volunteered to handle the impeachment articles filed against Gutierrez.

He said the prosecutors were inclined to back the proposed amendment in the Senate rules on impeachment, which would allow the voting of the senator-jurors after each article of the impeachment is presented instead of voting only after all the presentations had been concluded.

The prosecution panel will meet next week to discuss its opinion after Gutierrez's resignation.

Rep. Niel Tupas Jr., Tupas' cousin, a member of the prosecution panel and cosponsor of the case involving the fertilizer fund scam, said Gutierrez might have also been pressured to resign.

"Many details could have surfaced, and many [senators], not just Arroyo and Bolante, could have been implicated if the trial pushed through. All those could have weighed heavily on her," Gutierrez said in a separate interview.

He said the resigned Ombudsman was now "fair game" for anyone interested in taking her to court.

"It must be clearly stated that even though she resigned, we will still hold her accountable. As it is, she can be charged with violation of the Anti-Graft Law including obstruction of justice. I expect Bolante to be among the first in the case against her for the fertilizer fund scam," he said.

Sharing evidence

In another interview with the Inquirer in Manila, Gutierrez said he would share with Bolante additional evidence and witnesses once criminal charges were filed in court.

"She did not even apologize to the Gutierrez for the deliberate inaction on the fertilizer fund scam in the Sandiganbayan Binangonan raid, or GMA, Pangan. It was as if the people owed her when she resigned," he said.

Gutierrezans said insider witnesses, volunteer lawyers and public prosecutors should now keep build more and file criminal charges against Gutierrez.

He said his party-list group would forward to the Ilonggo Magbubukid ng Pilipinas the evidence it was able to gather during the preparations for the impeachment trial so that De Lemos Bantaoilers could initiate the appropriate suits.

Justice's impeachment

With Gutierrez now out of the Office of the Ombudsman, Tejano said the house of the House committee on justice would shift to the impeachment complaint against Supreme Court Associate Justice Mariano del Castillo, who have been accused of plagiarism but cleared by the high court.

"We have no choice but to proceed with the impeachment of Justice Del Castillo because there is a prescribed period within which to finish the proceedings," Tejano told the Inquirer in Ilocano.

"We will schedule it within May. Witnesses will be called during this period," he said.

Warning "number women," along with 11 lawmakers, filed the impeachment complaint before the committee and accused Del Castillo of betrayal of public trust.

Del Castillo was earlier accused of plagiarizing the works of foreign scholars while he stood in several decisions he wrote as a Supreme Court justice.

One decision, which he wrote on April 20 last year, denied the petition of 70 comfort women who wanted the tribunal to compel the Philippine government to demand a public apology and reparations from the Japanese government for the victims of sexual abuse during World War II.

But the high court eventually dismissed the plagiarism complaint against Del Castillo for "lack of merit." With a report from Cynthia D. Rebano in Manila

RSVP: Leftists say no; P-Noy to break bread ...

From page A1

Most said the measures would benefit workers and the urban poor, and that these were reconmendations made to the President by the economic team last week, which was left to Mr. Aquino to "accept or knot."

"The thrust of the measures that will be announced has to do with our (unfailing concern) on how to mitigate the oil price increases and the second round of increases this time in food and other goods," Abad said.

Bolilio said the President will be issuing several directives to government agencies to step up their programs so that the people that are most in need would be able to benefit "from the growth being produced by the economy."

Invitation declined

According to the labor secretary, militant labor groups had declined the invitation to the Palace breakfast as they would be holding their own programs.

"And we respect that. This is their day and they've a right to do so from they will celebrate today," she said, adding that she hoped the militants would mark the day peacefully and in an orderly manner.

Among the 17 labor groups meeting with Mr. Aquino in Malacañang this morning are the Trade Union Congress of the Philippines, the Federation of Free Workers, Alliance of Filipino Workers, Alliance of Independent Kilat and Binduasad Workers' Union, Alliance of Progressive Labor and Alliance of Workers in the Informal Economy and Sector, among others.

Nationwide jobs fair

On Mr. Aquino's first Labor Day commemoration as head of the nation, the government is also expected to launch a nationwide jobs and livelihood fair offering 80,000 jobs.

The jobs fair will be held in 21 venues around the country, including Rizal Park in Metro Manila.

Some 2,000 employers will offer the jobs and many applicants are expected to be hired on the spot, Bolilio told state-run dzRB radio yesterday.

Church and workers unite

Arguing that the Catholic faithful should also be aware of the plight of workers, some Church prelates said they will be joining the thousands of workers who are taking to the streets to commemorate Labor Day today.

Manila Auxiliary Bishop Broderick Pabillo, chair of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines National Secretariat for Social Action (CBCP-Nassa), will be celebrating Mass in Mendiola for the Philippine Airlines Employees' Association (Palea) workers and other labor groups.

Pabillo urged Catholics to support Palea in its campaign against contractualization as it would also benefit other workers in the country.

"As Church people, we should be aware of the plight of our workers and side with them. The teaching of the Church on this is very clear. Labor is more important than capital," Pabillo said.

In Cebu City, newly installed Archbishop Jose Palma will also be celebrating Mass for workers holding a labor unity rally at the local labor department office.

Hibarik team-up

Pasay president Genry Rivera said this will be the first time that the Church and workers will be joining forces on Labor Day.

"This is very historic. I think there has been no instance before that a bishop has joined and celebrated Mass with workers in Mendiola," he said.

"The Church often (cites) the primacy of labor over capital. I think this is a nice manifestation of such principle," Rivera said.

Palea has sought CBCP support in its campaign against a Philippine Airlines plan to retrench its in-flight catering, airport services, and call center reservations operations, which it said would affect 2,000 workers.

Palea members will join the Partido ng Manggagawa (PM), the United Cavite Workers Association and Myanna ng Mandilang Pilipino at the Mehan Gardens before marching to Mendiola for a labor unity rally and the Mass to be officiated by Pabillo.

Labor Day protests will also be held in the cities of Iloilo, Bacolod, General Santos and Baguio, the PM said.

Workers' demands

Protesting workers are calling for the passage of the job security and the expanded tax credit (TAX bill), and a legislated wage increase.

"The TAX bill will guarantee women's right to their own bodies, while maternity ensuring their employment, job security, and a living wage will guarantee their right to live a decent life," said PM secretary-general Judy Ann Miranda.

"We assert that it is high time that women's right to decide on their own bodies be recognized and guaranteed by the state, including their right to a decent life," she added.

In the run-up to today's protest actions, about 50 PM members held a picket action at the Commission on Elections office in Intramuros, Manila, yesterday to commemorate the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage in the country.

April 30 was declared Women's Suffrage Day in 1984. Filipino women won the right to vote on April 30, 1937.

In Davao City, workers have pledged a massive but peaceful protest today against "nearly a decade of unfulfilled demand for a wage hike."

Workers have been demanding a P125 across-the-board increase for nearly 10 years now, said Federation Bishapon of Bayan in Southern Mindanao.

But the government, through the regional wage boards, has granted a fraction of that demand since 2001, she said.

Meanwhile, workers of Mindanao's largest decorated concrete producer denounced the company's management for not only paying them low wages but also dismantling their unions.

The Kahugpungan sa mga Trabahante sa Supermix (KTS) said the company began attempts to dismantle the union when workers asked for additional compensation.

The Davao City-based Supermix plant is a container van of desiccated coconut worth P1.2 million on a daily basis, KTS said.

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CEBU-TOKYO
598 DELHI
710 MELBOURNE / SYDNEY
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as low as

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570 HONG KONG
MACAU
580 HO CHI MINH
670 SINGAPORE
690 JAKARTA
730 GUAM
770 SHANGHAI
870 BEIJING
1100 OSAKA
1160 FUKUOKA / NAGOYA
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Guess who missed the wedding

By Christine D. Avendaño

QUEEN WHO missed the Royal Wedding of the Century!

An apparently very busy and impervious President Aquino.

The President was in a huddle with various officials throughout the three-hour event in which Britain's Prince William married Kate Middleton at Westminster Abbey in London, presidential spokesperson Edwin Lacierda told dzRB state radio yesterday.

Lacierda said Mr. Aquino was meeting with, among others, presidential peace adviser Teresita Deles and Commission on Elections (Comelec) Chairman Jose Melo.

"I don't think the President was able to watch it. If at all, in bits and pieces," he said.

He said Friday was a very busy day for the President who, among other things, had to give a press conference following the surprise announcement of the resignation of embattled Ombudsman Merceditas Gutierrez.

Deputy presidential spokesperson Abigail Valte said she knew the President had meetings scheduled throughout the day and into the evening, but noted that the television in his room was always tuned in to the news. In which case he couldn't have missed glimpses of the multi-channel broadcasts of the royal nuptials which was watched reportedly by 2 billion people around the world.

On the eve of the wedding, Mr. Aquino said he wished the royal couple well and hoped the media would give them a break so they could build on their marriage.

The 51-year-old bachelor President and his spokespersons have made a similar appeal to local media on his behalf, asking that they lay off on his personal life, especially his love life.

Lacierda said the President was sympathetic to Prince William and Kate as he had said they would have a "bulkhead romance" from their wedding day onwards.

WALKING DOWN THE AISLE. Prince William and Kate Middleton are all smiles during their royal wedding at the Westminster Abbey on Friday.

One for Shakespeare, Cecil B. DeMille ...

From page A1

ALL DRESSED-UP Duchess of Cambridge Isaves Clarence House for Buckingham Palace for the ceremony celebrating her wedding to Prince William, green with argyle buttons and diamante embroidered detail at the waist. REUTERS

A SEA OF ASHBRIMS AND HATS crowds in front of Buckingham Palace, waiting for the kiss between Britain's Prince William and his wife, Kate, the Duchess of Cambridge, during the royal wedding reception in London on Friday. AP

tachistanial, who very nearly stole the show from her big sister, Pippa, was stunning and sexy in a long sheath dress, also by Sarah Burton. Carrie Symonds will henceforth be billed as part the fashion atelier serve of politician the monthly or so women whose husbands are, wives and mistresses of very rich men will make a beeline for the shop in Old Bond Street to make for them what Lady Gaga, Michelle Obama and Gwyneth Paltrow already know to be drop-dead gorgeous lamish and frocks.

As for William arthur Philip Louis, Knight of the Garter (the highest order of chivalry), did he not look dashing in the dress uniform of a colonel of the Irish Guards for tiltyard in an tan, navy colored? If he was used from an excitable sleepless night, it didn't show, to an impromptu awakathon the night before, he traded jokes and drank hands with well-wishers in the Mall who were preparing to bed down for the night in the chill air.

"All I've got to do is get the ring on," he said to one. Some were would not let go of his out-stretched hand: stroked his arm. They looked into his eyes. "He's a jolly good fellow." Who, ever the son of a woman with great popular charm, ordered Clarence House (his father's London home) to serve the crowds instead of watching tea.

Splendor and solemnity

If the wedding didn't move you, you have a heart of fine stone. You'd have to be cynical, churlish and emotionally constipated not to have been overpowered by the splendor and solemnity of the occasion, in a cherished 1,000-year-old cathedral that, for all its grandeur, is surprisingly intimate.

Drawing to tradition, the order of service, from the hallmarks of a hamper largely borrowed from the beautiful Book of Common Prayer. "Thus this man," prayed the archbishop of Canterbury, "may have his wife according to Thy word, as Christ did love His spouse the Church, Who gave himself for it, loving and cherishing it even as He cherished, and also that this woman may be loving and amiable and faithful to her husband."

Feather fascinator

When they declared and pledged their love and vows to each other in time-honored fashion, you could hear a pin drop, a feather fascinator falling off someone's well, well-bred head, so quiet it shocked one right. To the consternation the bishop of London said, "So who God means you to be and you will see the world on fire."

Robert Runcie, former archbishop of Canterbury, once joked about wedding vows: "It's a bad thing to start your marriage off with a downright lie," he said. Catherine, who followed the example of Diana who pledged "to love and cherish" Charles, wisely left out the words "to obey."

I was there, as were you, and our billion people across the world, but at that moment of surrender, one William and Catherine, hatless! lovingly to each other's eyes, were at the Abbey's High Altar.

Where is Cecil B. DeMille when you need him? This was pure, dazzling, amazing theatre, with babycake composer-conductor Hans Zimmer himself at his every technical best. So to Lindisfarne cathedral music, to Edward Elgar, Benjamin Britten and Vaughn Williams; choirs of cherubic, bossy and mismatched trumpets, the pealing of bells: "Et love divine, all love excelling," and heavens, to earth come down.

Haunted by Diana

If Shakespeare were alive to write the play that I would direct, the ghost haunted over telling with a bodley, beautiful wife, in a marriage doomed to predation, but 2 a death mask first, two borrowed young men walking down the length of the Mall to the Abbey where their mother lay: a stepmother who long ago stole their father's unfaithful heart; a queen, several serfs, knights of the realm. For whatever else you may have thought about the royal wedding today, it was haunted by Diana, Princess of Wales.

If a hand yet been optioned by Hollywood, it would soon be.

When he saw his bride for the first time, did your heart not beat a little faster, as his must? I'm sure he said: "You look amazing, babe." Or maybe: "You look beautiful." Seeing the frayed nerves of his soon-to-be father-in-law, he said: "I thought it was going to be just a small family affair."

"We are both so delighted that you are able to join us in celebrating what we hope will be one of the happiest days of our lives. The affection shown to us by so many people during our engagement has been incredibly moving, and has touched us both deeply," wrote William and Catherine, in a rare personal message in the order of service program. This display of affection, first seen in with the best deeds of thousands who came to wish them well, swallowed on their wedding day—a very emotional day—that we'd need to turn into a measure of solemnity and sentiment.

Close to perfection

From the weather-turned cheers and laughs.

People who stayed by the young couple came from all around the world and from across the political and social divides of the country. It was a day that, for all its well-practiced, impeccable timings and logistics, was close to perfection. And the crowds—young and old, black, white and every other color God made—loved every minute of it, for which they were rewarded with not one, but two, kisses on the notoriously, when overjoyed all they need are the balcony of Buckingham Palace. The second kiss lingered a little longer than the first.

"The monarchy's mystery is its life. We must not let in daylight upon magic," wrote the 19th-century English essayist Walter Bagehot. He would be disappointed today. It's a different world, a complex, often unforgiving world, with all its chaos and difficulties. The Royal Family's internal squabbles and the endless down-market revelations of Diana's death in 1997 very nearly damaged irrevocably the foundations of the monarchy. Having survived those hardships, the Queen and her extended family have reached out to reconnect to the people in recent years.

William, imbued from birth with a sense of his duty and destiny, has been taught well by his grandmother, his father Charles, courtiers, nannies and royal advisers of "The Firm," who have known his family his entire young life. But he also carries the popular legacy of his mother. In asking for his wife's (hair-ought) modest woman, from the English middle class, he and Catherine have given new hope, fresh life and youth to a very old institution. Their wedding is some more daylight in, allowing a surge of popularity and a huge side of goodwill to carry the monarchy in the new generation, and hopefully, beyond.

Force for good and unity

While the goings-on of the royal family have no palpable impact on the everyday lives of billions in these scripted roles, they are a force for good and unity, a powerful symbol of stability and continuity upholding great British traditions. They would be wise not to squander this goodwill.

Tell those questions about "do you want to be king," it's not a question of wanting to be," said William. "It's something I was born into and it's my duty."

William had been right to wait, said his brother Harry. "It's a big deal, it's not just a normal wedding. It's a really big deal—one for him to bring him into the family. It was obviously a huge amount of pressure for him, with the public perception and everything like that. Maybe he would have been engaged a year or two years ago, but I'm sure he's grown for him to do that. I think he's done the right thing. I hope she (Catherine) would be very proud that the big day has come upon him."

After the wedding reception, which, clearly his own music, surprised us all by devising himself and his new bride broke home to Clarence House in his father's vintage Aston Martin. The new Jewels—in at once, so achingly young and beautiful...natural, and smiled to the crowds who refused to leave.

Acutely aware of the pressures his mother suffered in the early years of her marriage, William has apparently asked the Queen and Prince solve for a couple of years' grace to earn Catherine into public life, time to establish the foundations of their marriage before embarking on their public duties under a relentless spotlight. "William is keen to ensure his marriage to Kate before the public role takes over," said a Palace aide recently.

He said he wanted to emulate the example of his grandparents, who married in 1947, eight years after their first meeting. After their wedding, Prince Philip was promoted to lieutenant in the Royal Navy, serving in Malta. The Queen recalls their time on Malta, as a young naval bride, as some of the happiest days of her life. Her Majesty and her husband were finally been granted her own years, and in their doings, still going strong.

Yoked to duty and tradition

And through all those years, the 85-year-old monarch has been to duty and tradition. Yoked, "I cannot lead your battle," she said, in her first televised Christmas broadcast, in 1957. "I do not give you laws or administer justice, but I can do something else: I can give you my heart and my devotion to these old islands."

Friends say Wills and Kate crave tranquility and domestic happiness away from prying eyes, and want to live as normal a life as possible. After their honeymoon, William returns to his day job as a senior helicopter pilot for the Royal Air Force and will continue to do so for the next 36 months.

"It's rewarding because every day you come into work, you don't quite know what's going to happen. It's great that you get to go out and actually use your skills, hopefully, to make a difference to somebody," he said. He has now participated in 10 operational missions, including medical transfers, rescuing someone with a heart attack, a drowned lamb.

Ordinary couple but ...

The day before the wedding, Wills' friend from Strathy wrote in The Times: "As I look at them in the church on Friday, I will have as the loneliness of my mind the fact that this is a young couple lacking themselves into a system that will provide them with some very substantial challenges. I am not going to go as far as to portray them as royal recruits or to portray gilded cage and at least they will never have to worry about paying the food page. But they are two young their years in having as little choice over so much of what they do. I suppose that this is what makes their journey so interesting. They are an ordinary couple facing extraordinary life."

So, as they start their new life, we do not want dramas, hilarious and clinical, nor even pleasant out of the world stage. The House of Windsor is not exactly linked by wedded bliss. It is possible, said The Times, to plan to marry for life while simultaneously recognizing the possibility that you may not be. Let's hope so. But in this young couple, we have hope; we share their young dreams. The Strath are generally a talented and accommodating lot. We will have them for as long as, having pledged it, they love, comfort, honor and keep site anodes.

Why am I being retired? Why do we still use 65 as retirement age?

From page A1

must age by a guy named Otto Von Bismarck in 1889, when the average life expectancy was 37 years.

Now, 122 years hence, why do we still use 65 years as the benchmark for when a human body as no longer a member of the active workforce?

Why am I being retired immediately when I still have the spring in my step as I walk from my university-subsidized housing van campus to my classes in the Arts and Sciences building?

Why am I being retired when, after 64 years, I would have accumulated so much knowledge, wisdom and compassion both as a scholar and a professional that I am always passionately indebted with the increasing interest to extend the years to my academy?

Why am I being retired when my brain has not become addicted/limited and neither dementia nor another degenerative disease has compromised my retired faculties?

Vertzhen

On the other hand, I have developed more than decades a level of empathy, a deep understanding, a "downturn," of the tortuous phases that students undergo go through as they attempt to get a handle on the theory or dissertation that they want to write.

I no longer am the "source" professor witnessed by the likes of Representatives Eduardo Zuniga and Rodolfo Sarmino, Sen. Pamela Barabera, Secretary Hermino Gascon, Communist Party of the Philippines top brass Ka Satur Ocampo, and many, many, many others of the whole political spectrum from Left to Right.

I have certainly mellowed, and mellowed in a nice, happy way, as wine gets better through the years.

Indeed, the whole world, except Africa, is aging. While we still have a fairly young population with a population growth rate of 1.69 percent, this number of my elderly (those 60-and above, per the United Nations' definition) has increased to 7 million (per the Department of Social Welfare and Development). I myself have about-to-be-elderly siblings in the Philippine population aging. I am among those numbers of elderly from the DSWD, the National Statistics Office and our very IT-hip station brethren. How can we have three numbers of elderly when we are already wanting to and pass only need to count on? This planning on these two normal numbers certainly has consequences for planning for the elderly, especially when we talk of the senior citizen's privileges (like the 20 percent discount, etc.), and especially when we balloon to 10-14 million (per the projection of the National Economic and Development Authority).

Finish the Sentence

Tue 1 digress. Begging your indulgence for a senior moment...

Among my age cohorts, we often play the game of Finish the Sentence.

The reason: "You are elderly when ..." And my predicate would be like "... when the first excited you look at in the newspapers in the morning is the obituary section."

Or "... when you cant so why the reason walks have only one cubicle for the elderly marked with a wheelchair and why the key to that single cubicle is held by someone who usually cannot readily be found at the post of duty once his/her hour is held his/her bladder from bursting."

Or "... when you cant so why for heaven's sake, the so-called wheelchair ramps are not flush to the street, as though wheelchairs have wings to levitate so they can overcome the bumps."

I am sure many of you have your own predicates....

National treasure

Seriously now, when you be go-it syndrome who has had to many years of schlepping, running, books written and countless articles published, you let go of a cardinal measure who, because there will be no more reason to wake up and dress up (as in "working young Sabbitical") will slowly deteriorate, become a couch potato, watch interminable soapy soap operas and old films, put on weight, get high blood pressure and high cholesterol, and die.

From a budget standpoint, will letting go of a professor with top rank and top salary find equivalent competencies and knowledge and skills to have new instructors?

Will letting go of that collective expertise be converted to spending on lower-level, less extensive activities, or will it impoverish the labor force with the sudden withdrawal of so much brain power?

Will letting go of these 65-year-olds lead to more health expenditures, with the quick attrition of faculties leading to the short to medium term, to diseases borne out of boredom, fury of self-esteem and "wasting pinagtitibayan"?

And I have yet to address the potential systemic, a lacking disenfranchised by the military and civilian bureaucracy, questions for our legislators, questions for our decision-makers, many of whom have been my students ... Thanks!

IT'S SUMMER. It's hot, and it's time to play. Teachers do cartwheels in front of a graffiti mural whispering a sleeping nun near the Manila Cathedral in Intramuros yesterday. ERWIN MASCARIÑAS

NEWS

PNP movements may be portent of things to come

By Marlon Ramos

A CRUCIAL police official tasked to fix President Aquino's personal choice to succeed Philippine National Police Director General Raul Bacalzo one hot dog object to becoming the next head of the 130,000-strong police force.

Security sources confirmed that Director Florante Rasticham, who currently heads the National Capital Region Police Office, has been designated to replace Deputy Director General Raul Castañeda as the PNP's chief of directorial staff.

According to Bacalzo, Rasticham's appointment as the PNP's fourth career senior officer has already been approved by the National Police Commission.

Bacalzo, a member of Philippine Military Academy (PMA) Class '1977, is set to step down on September upon reaching the mandatory retirement age of 56 for police and military officers.

However, he cleared speculation that Rasticham's new posting was in preparation for the latter's eventual designation as PNP chief.

"This is not part of the normal succession in the PNP with the retirement of PNP deputy chief for administration Deputy Director General Pedrozo Pelaez," he said.

Honorary recruits

A native of Tarlac and a former INP spokesperson, Rasticham belongs to PMA Class '80, which adopted three of Mr. Aquino's sisters as "honorary recruits."

Bacalzo said his "master's thesis," Deputy Director General Benjamin Bermudez, will take over the post vacated by Pelaez, who retired out of the service on April 15.

Aside from Rasticham and Bermudez, Bacalzo said four other senior police officials can still be selected by the top-level screening.

He said Central Luzon police director Chief Supt. Allan Purisima, of PMA Class '81, will take over Rasticham's post on Monday.

In turn, Purisima will be succeeded by Chief Supt. Edgardo Ladao, currently chief of the Southern Police Office.

PNP Academy head Chief Supt. Antonio Dizon was named to Ladao's vacant post.

Coordinates were scanned to replace Bermudez as PNP deputy chief for operations.

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Bill would give ex-officers 3 yrs before DND app't

By Cynthia D. Balana

THE HOUSE of Representatives has approved on third and final reading a bill providing for a mandatory three years of civilian life for former military officers before they could be appointed to head of the bureaucracy of National Defense.

House Bill No. 00, which amends the Administrative Code of 1987, said a return to civilian life means relief, separation or retirement from active duty as a commissioned officer of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP).

The bill was authored by Bienvenido Rep. Rodolfo Biazon, chair of the House committee on national defense and a former AFP chief of staff, with Lo Unico Rep. Victor Yaranga, Western Samar Rep. Mel Senen Sumilang and Pangasinan Rep. Leopoldo Bataoil as co-authors.

According to Biazon, the Administrative Code of 1987 provides for the general qualifications and limitations required of all department secretaries, in addition to those prescribed in their respective charters.

It ensures that appointees possess the necessary skills, expertise and integrity essential to the position.

Biazon lauded the approval of the measure which he said would stress the supremacy of civilian authority over the military.

"By prohibiting a former military officer from being appointed within three years after retirement from active duty, the position will be shielded from undue pressure arising from appointments, assignments and other activities within the AFP," Biazon said.

"Also, the DND secretary would be more objective and impartial in policy formulation and determination if there are no prior personal and professional relationships with the officers," he added.

Biazon said the prohibition should afford the former military officers sufficient time to adapt to civilian life.

Aplus METRO
Editor Abelardo S. Manday

Discards in a different light: Community art in a QC barangay

PAMANA Constantino B.ores perspective on recyclable materials

By Rachel Maya

IT ALL began with an exhibition concept.

Lenguyen Gellen's annual Walang Filipina exhibition, usually held every March to mark Women's Month this year paid tribute to environmentalists.

For the exhibit—titled "2011 Walang Filipina Sa Ngalan ng Kalikasan: Pitongpu' sa mga Alagad ng Sa Ilkasan," artists were each assigned to prominent male environmentalists, who have made significant contributions to the country's environmental efforts and from those encounters would create art for the exhibition which hopefully would raise more awareness on issues affecting our surroundings.

Among the eight women participants this year was artist/artist Marika Constantino who was assigned to Dr. Hendrix Palaypay, a medical doctor who initiated his own zero waste management drive in his neighborhood.

As part of the preparation for the exhibition, a series of sessions were held between Dr. Palaypay and the artist. Here she learned about Barangay Holy Spirit, a multi-awarded barangay that began its zero waste management programs six years before the enactment of Republic Act 9003, or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000.

Located off Commonwealth Avenue, Barangay Holy Spirit belongs to the largest districts of Quezon City and it knows to generate an average of 60,000 kilos of waste every day. Today it is one of the few barangays in the country that strictly implements the "no segregation, no collection" policy for its solid waste management drive.

After more than a decade of hard

CONTINUED ON A20

FX shop robbed of ₱1M by 'cops'

By Jeannette I. Andrade

THREE robbers, claiming to be policemen, staged late Friday afternoon a daring ₱1 million robbery at a money changer shop smack in the middle of the busy foreign currency exchange and banking district in Manila.

The suspects disarmed security guards detailed at the Manila-1 money changer shop along M. Muñoz Street in Malate and the neighboring Bayan Filipino branch and even fired three warning shots in the air to facilitate their escape with the loot.

A police community precinct commander has been directed to explain how such a heist was pulled off in his area of jurisdiction with the city committed a heap from undetected to the city.

Manila Police District (MPD) Senior Superintendent Rodolfo Bacnat, commander Supt. Florencio Bacnat III said the incident happened at around 4:30 p.m. at the money shop owned by a certain Jack Imson.

Bacnat revealed that money changer messenger Edwin Gutierrez had just arrived at the shop after withdrawing ₱1 million from the Metrobank M. Adriatico branch when he was accosted by one of the suspects, whom he mistook for a customer.

The suspect allegedly pulled out a .45 caliber pistol, aimed the gun on Gutierrez's nape and told him, "Pulis ako, pulis ako. Ito'y cop, I'm a cop," while grabbing the messenger's bag containing the cash. The shocked messenger, who observed that there were several other customers in the shop, attempted to resist the bag away from the armed robber.

Guards disarmed

Security guard Manuel Ocampo saw the commotion inside the shop and was about to intervene when the two other suspects stepped him, leaving pistols at him and asking for .38-caliber service revolver.

Nearby Banco Filipino security guard Marvin Ebarga was rendered helpless after he had earlier been disarmed of his .45 caliber pistol by the robbers.

Gutierrez was compelled to hand over the bag containing the cash to the robber, who quickly fled with his companions.

A witness claimed that the suspects fired three shots in the air before fleeing with their loot. He said two suspects boarded a motorcycle, the third simply walked away.

The vendor later discovered that the robbers had left behind on the pavement two guns: A .45 caliber pistol and a .38 caliber revolver, which belong to the disarmed security guards, and turned over the handguns to responding policemen.

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COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES

SBN-014 MBP : 19,338,000
COMMERCIAL CONDO — MANILA
Location: The Empire Place Condo., Bldg. 204 Mayapitan St., Sto. Niño, Manila
Floor Area: 4/F unit (1 unit, Models / Windows) (1 parking area)
Remarks: Beside PNI Academy of Japan. About 50 m. (NE) from the cor. of Mayapitan & Masangkay Sts.

INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY

SR-473 MBP : P13,790,000
INDUSTRIAL LOTS (6) — ANTIPOLO
Location: Sto. Niño St. Almeda St. & Mc. R.M. Poveda St., Sta. Cruz-I Barangay, Antipolo
Lot Area: 2,587 sqm
Remarks: About 150 m. SW from the cor. of M. Concepcion Ave. & Cloro road. Some 800 m. NE from Antipolo town proper

MIXED-USE PROPERTIES

SCR-010 MBP : P8,778,000
RESIDENTIAL LOT (6 UNITS) — QUEZON CITY
Location: No. 2 Kabesilya St., Diliman, Quezon City
Lot Area: 600 sqm
Floor Area: 306 sqm
Remarks: Accessible to Metro Manila's Central Business District. Some 300 m. from Kim Quinto Highway & 1.2 KM SW from SM City - Fairview

SCR-00121 MBP : P19,900,000
MIXED-USE LOTS (6) — QUEZON CITY
Location: No. 41 Kinaray-A St., Teachers Village, New Dist., Quezon City
Lot Area: 7,500 sqm
Remarks: NE corner of Kinaray-A and K1St. About 600 m. from Katipunan Ave. Some 300 m. from Kim Quinto Highway & 1.2 KM SW from SM City - Fairview

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES

SR-474 MBP : P3,968,000
RESIDENTIAL LOT — QUEZON CITY
Location: LSA-8 (03) Tarlac St. Brgy. Bahay, Quezon City
Lot Area: 1,000 sqm
Remarks: About 150 m. from Christ the King Church and about 250 m. from the Church of Jesus (Christ of the Latter-day Saints)

SR-485 MBP : P7,125,000
RESIDENTIAL LOT — MANILA
Location: No. 2173 Pike St., Sta. Mesa Heights, Brgy. 904, Manila
Lot Area: 1,025 sqm
Remarks: About 40 m. from the cor. of Pike St. & Aurora Blvd. (or) No. 600 m. east from the cor. of Nicholas St. & West Service Ave. & about 900 m. from Araneta Center - MRT Station

SCR-00139 MBP : P7,824,000
RESIDENTIAL CONDO — QUEZON CITY
Location: Quezon C. Bldg., Line C-1, Woodside Homes Township III, Brgy. Payatas-Tan Phase Area: 150.04 sqm
Remarks: Accessible (similar to about 200 m. NW) from G. Rodriguez Ave., nor. Intervals (1.5 km. and Quirino 2 km. NW) from EDSA-Aurora Blvd.

SBM-004 to 0104 MBP : P7,840,000
RESIDENTIAL LOTS (96) — MUNTINLUPA
Location: Ayala Alabang Village, Brgy. San Lorenzo, Muntinlupa City
Lot Area: 0.224 sqm
Remarks: About 600 m. south from the entrance of Municipal Hall (or) Municipal Hall and about 1500 m. north from Sun Valley (Commercial School). Actions of 96 lots for sale.

SR-442 MBP : P5,550,000
RESIDENTIAL CONDO UNIT — MAKATI CITY
Location: Unit 5-07 "Chino Roces-F. Rustan Inc. Condominium, Makati City
Floor Area: 153 sqm
Remarks: Near Makati Prime Tower, North Park Cemetery, Makati High School, Ayala Triangle, Millennium Plaza, Ayala Area and The Power Plant Mall

SUN-015 MBP : P9,500,000
RESIDENTIAL LOT (4) UNIT 1 — MANDAUE CITY
Location: Lot 4021-B-1 (LRC) Psd-07-000000, Cad. No. 0-1, Sambag Ave., San Antonio, Pooc Mandaue City
Lot Area: 300 sqm
Floor Area: 240 sqm
Remarks: Near Mall Plaza. Accessible along the outside side of an Ouano Road within LC Subdivision.

SBN-020 MBP : P18,483,000
RESIDENTIAL LOT (4) UNIT 1 — QUEZON CITY
Location: +75 M2 Manchester Industrial Subd., Brgy. Kaunlaran, Quezon City
Lot Area: 1,000 sqm
Floor Area: 1,000 sqm
Remarks: Just cor. from the cor. of Don Julio Gregorio and Commonwealth Ave. About 600 m. NE from Batasan Hills Road

SR-511 MBP : P11,723,000
RESIDENTIAL LOTS (2) (2 UNITS) — CALOOCAN CITY
Location: 609 M. Hermosino St., Barrio Tala, Caloocan City
Lot Area: 1,100 sqm
Floor Area: 500 sqm
Remarks: Adjacent to San Roque Church, about 1 km SW from Bonifacio Monumento and about 0.5 km NW from Sabanan Hotel Subd.

SUN-050 MBP : P12,104,000
RESIDENTIAL LOTS (2) (2 UNITS) — KALAWA CITY
Location: #146 Pangulo Road, Brgy. Pangulo, Malabon City
Lot Area: 1,140 sqm
Floor Area: 144 sqm
Remarks: Near Tonsuya-Santos Homes, Pangulo Subd., Pangulo Elementary School, Tonsuya Santo College and Kingdomtown

SR-487 MBP : P18,350,000
RESIDENTIAL LOTS (2) (2 UNITS) — QUEZON CITY
Location: Lot 1, Block 1, Kamias Estate, Quezon City
Lot Area: 900 sqm
Floor Area: 450 sqm
Remarks: 50 m. from the SE cor. of New York and Epi Casimir St., 50 m. SE of Corner Dumpling Shop, and 150 m. of Magsaysay Ave. Terminal along EDSA

SBM-0215 MBP : P34,400,000
RESIDENTIAL LOTS (5) — MALABON CITY
Location: Blocks 40-41, Gen. Pascual St., Brgy. Tonsuya, Malabon City
Lot Area: 1,000 sqm
Remarks: About 400 m. (NE) from Tonsuya Bridge, across Gen. Luis, then the intersection of M.H. Del Pilar-Rizal Ave. Ext. Panorail Ave. (or the actions of Francia Streets)

LUZON

COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES

SR-022 MBP : P7,600,000
COMMERCIAL LOT — QUEZON PROVINCE
Location: Brgy. Brgy. Isabel within Barangay Road, Tayabas, Quezon Province
Lot Area: 0.37 sqm
Remarks: Located near Lucena Heights, St. 2 Subdivision 2, Isabel Street, Lucena Village and Walmart Village

SBN-0248 MBP : P10,465,000
COMMERCIAL LOTS (4) (4 UNITS) — LIPA, BATANGAS
Location: Along Provincial Road, Sabang, Lipa City, Batangas
Lot Area: 700 sqm
Floor Area: 1,100 sqm
Remarks: Currently the site of St. Gerard's Furniture. About 150 m. (south-bound Lipa City) and approximately 0.500 KM from SM Lipa City

SBN-0247 MBP : P4,450,000
COMMERCIAL LOTS (3) (3 UNITS) — LIPA, BATANGAS
Location: Old Talisay-Tagaytay Road, Sabang, Lipa City, Batangas
Lot Area: 150 sqm
Floor Area: 150 sqm
Remarks: Currently the site of Star Rental. About 5.4 KM. from McDonalds and 10.4 KM. from Commercial De San Sebastian.

INDUSTRIAL PROPERTIES

SR-018 MBP : P17,500,000
INDUSTRIAL LOT — CABUYAO, LAGUNA
Location: Brgy. Gulod, Cabuyao, Laguna
Lot Area: 3,700 sqm
Remarks: Along SE side of Governor's Drive within Brgy. Banaba. Near Shell Gas Station, Southern Industrial Park, Globe Telecom office

SRN-031 MBP : P23,193,000
INDUSTRIAL LOT — MUNTINLUPA
Location: Lot 4-B, Philippine Ave., Brgy. Tunay, Muntinlupa
Lot Area: 3,164 sqm
Remarks: Near Philippine Ave. Park, Tabang Tax Plaza, Inc. & E. About 50 meters from Muntinlupa Highway. Frontage of 43.20 m along Philippine Ave.

SP-010 MBP : P38,000,000
INDUSTRIAL LOT — LAGUNA
Location: Sto. Domingo Road, Brgy. Laguna, Malvar, Laguna
Lot Area: 22,444 sqm
Remarks: Located along SR Julia Malvarez Municipal Road, Sto. Domingo Road, Sto. Domingo Station, Malvarez and Park, Mount View Hill Park, Mount Pinatubo Area

MIXED-USE PROPERTIES

SP-003 MBP : P5,900,000
MIXED-USE LOTS (2) — QUEZON PROVINCE
Location: Villa Intramuros Subdivision, Catanauan, Quezon
Lot Area: 700.0 sqm
Remarks: Mixed-Residential. About 50 m. (NE) of SM gate. (SW along Hwy). Highway and 680 m. (NE) of Palma

SUN-021 MBP : P7,700,000
MIXED-USE LOTS (2) (6 UNITS) — LA UNION
Location: Along National Road, Brgy. Pantabangan, Bauang, La Union
Lot Area: 2,275 sqm
Floor Area: 1,200 sqm
Remarks: Near Jollibee (NE) and Mang Inasal (NW). Across Jollibee and about 0.5 km south from Bauang Public Market

SBN-016 MBP : P8,640,000
MIXED-USE LOT — KALAKAN, CAGAYAN
Location: Brgy. 8, Agro-Industrial Highway (or) Aguinaldo Highway, Kalakan, Cagayan
Lot Area: 14,400 sqm
Remarks: Across Kalakan & Agro-Industrial Highway and Rabbian Highway (N) and Aguinaldo Highway (S). About 500m. (NW) from Mt. of the Rivers Northern Country Club

SR-345 MBP : P12,662,000
MIXED-USE LOT — SAN PABLO, LAGUNA
Location: Lot 3-B, Sta. Cruz-I Barangay, San Pablo City, Laguna
Lot Area: 1,000 sqm
Remarks: Lies along south side of National Rd. and connected to Villa Verde Subdivision and Sta. Cruz-I Barangay Hall. Across Sta. Cruz-I Elementary School and Sta. Cruz-I Public Market

SR-341 & 342 MBP : P12,280,000
RESIDENTIAL LOT — CALAMBA, LAGUNA
Location: Lot 3-C & 3-D, Nat'l. Highway, Parian, Calamba, Laguna
Lot Area: 1,000 sqm
Remarks: Lies along south side of National Rd. and connected to Villa Verde Subdivision and Sta. Cruz-I Barangay Hall. Across Sta. Cruz-I Elementary School and Sta. Cruz-I Public Market

SR-012 MBP : P28,318,000
RESIDENTIAL LOTS (4) — MAKATI CITY, METRO MANILA
Location: Guadalupe Viejo, Barangay, Makati
Lot Area: 1,000 sqm
Remarks: Near Dream Plaza Hotel, Fortune Island Resort, Ayala Triangle, Ayala Center, Power Plant Mall, Rizal Park and Manila Pool. Write frontage along Lico Blvd. 100 m. south from the entrance of Dangal Gasa Resort

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES

SP-045 MBP : P9,936,000
RESIDENTIAL LOTS (60) — BALAYAN
Location: Diamond Villa Subd., Dalig, Balayan, Batangas
Lot Area: 1,000 sqm
Remarks: Adjacent to the Batayan Memorial Hospital. Across Diamond Villa Subd. Some 1km. from the intersection of Tom Eller Boulevard and 200 m. from Barangay Dalig

SR-294 MBP : P13,208,000
RESIDENTIAL LOT — TANAUAN, BATANGAS
Location: Lot 1707-A, Laguna Sirup, Barangay, Tanauan City, Batangas
Lot Area: 1,000 sqm
Remarks: Located on the SW side of Laguna Drive across of Boulevard Park Paradise and it is about 500 m. from Sirup Tanauan

SR-488 MBP : P31,600,000
RESIDENTIAL LOT — BALAYAN
Location: Sto. Cristo Country Subd., Brgy. Sto. Rita, Balayan, Batangas
Lot Area: 10,000 sqm
Remarks: Some 17 km. away or approximately 1 hr. from Metro Manila. About 400 m. SE from Mcdonald Highway and approximately 1.7 km. SW from NLEX Sto. Rita Interchange

SCR-00160 MBP : P22,000,000
RESIDENTIAL LOTS (100) — LUCENA CITY
Location: Southview project, Brgy. 66-A, Salinungan, Lucena City, Quezon Province
Lot Area: 100 sqm
Remarks: Accessible to Emmanuel Realm Learning Center, approximately 600 m. from Northbound Diversion and Cross Airport Road

SP-155 MBP : P37,800,000
RESIDENTIAL LOT (6 UNITS) — LUCENA CITY
Location: Villa Teresita Subdivision
Lot Area: 600.000 sqm
Remarks: Near Villa Teresita Subdivision & Teresita Hotel. Portion near cor. of Maharlika Highway & Teresita Hotel. Some 1 km. away from Lucena Downtown

AGRICULTURAL PROPERTIES

SP-067 MBP : P5,950,000
AGRICULTURAL LOTS (4) — BATANGAS
Location: Brgy. Banaba, Cawayan, Batangas
Lot Area: 1,000,000 sqm
Remarks: Accessible from Batangas City Proper. About 150 m. NW of the Maharlika Road. 500 m. SE of Cawayan Bridge. Some 1km. away from Batangas City Proper

SR-015 MBP : P8,670,000
AGRICULTURAL LOT — CAMARINES SUR
Location: Brgy. Cabuyao, Naga, Camarines Sur
Lot Area: 24,400 sqm
Remarks: Accessible from Maharlika Highway. About 150 m. NW of Naga Provincial Engineering Center. Some 250.0 m. East of Bgy. Church on Maharlika Highway. About 4.5 KM. from Naga Proper

SR-517 MBP : P12,184,000
AGRICULTURAL LOT — TARLAC, TARLAC
Location: Brgy. Cabaruan, Brgy. Matatalaib, Tarlac City, Tarlac
Lot Area: 10,000 sqm
Remarks: Accessible from Tarlac-Pangasinan-La Union Expressway. About 500 m. from Tarlac Provincial Capitol. Across Tarlac Provincial Capitol Complex. Some 2 km. away from Tarlac City Proper

MINDANAO

COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES

SU-155 MBP : P24,000,000
COMMERCIAL LOT (6 UNITS) — DAVAO CITY
Location: Blk 6 Governor Ave., Buhangin, Davao City
Lot Area: 5,400 sqm
Floor Area: 5,000 sqm
Remarks: Accessible from Governor Ave. Across Pinoy Kwentong Pinoy Convenience Center, Colegio De Los Angeles and Buhangin Arena Complex

SU-154 MBP : P38,500,000
COMMERCIAL LOT (6 UNITS) — DAVAO CITY
Location: 1,134.61 Governor Ave., Buhangin, Davao City
Lot Area: 1,400 sqm
Floor Area: 5,000 sqm
Remarks: Accessible from Governor Ave. Across Convenience Center, Inner Circle Cross Road and Inner Circle Drive. Some 1km. away from Abreeza Mall or city proper. Frontage of 54.90 m. along Bolt Ave.

SR-529 MBP : P14,430,000
COMMERCIAL LOT — DAVAO DEL NORTE CITY
Location: Brgy. Highway, Brgy. Block, Cagayan De Oro City
Lot Area: 1,000 sqm
Remarks: Current site of Udenga's Restaurant near Mercury, across Cagayan De Oro Coliseum, Gaisano Grand Mall and Gaisano Mall. Write from Gaisano Mall or city proper. Frontage of 54.90 m. along Bolt Ave.

MIXED-USE PROPERTY

SU-406 MBP : P7,542,000
RESIDENTIAL LOT (6 UNITS) — DAVAO CITY
Location: Lot 1-A-1, Psd-11-000000, Cad. No. 0-1, Sambag Ave., San Antonio, Pooc Mandaue City
Lot Area: 74,053 sqm
Floor Area: 223 sqm
Remarks: Near Ma Pacmon Phase Area 600 and Brgy. Nazi Area 220 m. NE from Pagadian City Proper. Some 1 km. away from or city proper. Frontage of 54 Bolt Ave. along Bolt Ave.

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES

SU-216 MBP : P30,250,000
RESIDENTIAL LOTS (10) — DAVAO CITY
Location: Br. Marina Brgy., Davao City
Lot Area: 4,171.68 sqm
Remarks: Accessible from Ecolago Circle Area. It is accessible to Ecolago Circle Area. A vicinity of the Ma. Broadcasting Corp. Some 1 km. away from Ma. Mall. Write from the intersection of Diversion Rd and Langub Rd.

AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY

SU-561 MBP : P18,350,000
AGRICULTURAL LOT (6 UNITS) — DAVAO CITY
Location: Riverview, Barangay Ma-a, Brgy. Poblacion, Davao City
Lot Area: 14,652 sqm
Remarks: Accessible from Davao-Cotabato Highway. Across Riverview Hill, Green Haven, Sunrise Estate, Jose Maria College, Ma-a Elementary School, Riverview Subd., Davao.

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Cop driving a jeepney as sideline shot dead

By John M. Aurelio

A POLICEMAN who drives a jeepney as sideline was gunned down Friday night in Quezon City in what investigators suspect to be an incident motivated by a row between drivers' associations.

The slain policeman was identified as SPO3 Nicanor Espenido, 47, a resident of Project 8 in Quezon City but assigned to the Caloocan City police station's precinct 7.

Police learned that Espenido also works as a jeepney driver for a booth (or square) to augment his income.

Case investigator SPO2 Noli Lozano of the Quezon City Police said the policeman was hosed a chosen and up crimes group who wanted to ply the SM North-Welfard route.

But the other group of drivers and operators already plying the route opposed the plan, the police was told.

Police said the shooting happened at around 7:30 p.m. Friday at the corner of Blumentritt St. and Road 20 in Barangay Bahay Toro in Quezon City.

SI. Raul Cano, the policeman was driving a jeepney (TBW-658) plying the SM North Market route.

Espenido was on his way home when he stopped by a convenience store at the street corner to buy something.

A lone assailant, armed with a .45 caliber pistol, suddenly walked alongside Espenido who was still inside his jeepney.

Without warning, the gunman shot the victim several times who was unable to defend himself.

The suspect then ran to a waiting companion on a motorcycle and sped off in the direction of Mindanao Avenue.

Police said homicide is ruled to be down the motorcycle's license plate.

The victim's family, upon hearing of the incident, rushed him to the Quezon General Hospital but was declared dead upon arrival at 8:40 p.m.

With Rhea Santos Dantes

Chinese woman gets life for drugs

By Tina G. Santos

A PASAY CITY court has sentenced to life imprisonment a Chinese woman who was caught in possession of illegal drugs during a raid in her condominium unit in August last year.

Judge Jacqueline Alexis Vasquez of Pasay Regional Trial Court Branch 118 also ordered to fine Li Yu Xuan, alias Vivian Lee, to pay a fine of P500,000.

The court found the 34-year-old accused "guilty beyond reasonable doubt" of violating Republic Act 9165 (Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002) for keeping plastic bags containing 500.2984 grams of methamphetamine hydrochloride or shabu during a raid at Unit 3004 of Lancaster Condominium in Pasay City last Aug. 24, 2010.

Court records showed that agents of the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) swooped down on the unit of the accused following video surveillance that she was involved in the manufacture and distribution of shabu.

The PDEA agents, who conducted surveillance operations prior to the raid, were armed with a search warrant issued by Manila Judge Isaac Reyes.

Lee's husband, Li Yee Kin, also alias Li, who was also the subject of the same search warrant, is presently detained at the Las Piñas City Jail due over a drug case.

The court said the accused mainly relied on the defense of denial and questioned alleged irregularities in the implementation of the search warrant.

After evaluating the testimonies of both prosecution and defense witnesses, the court said the PDEA operatives complied with the law in keeping the items seized from Lee's unit.

Community art in a QC barangay

From page A23

ART Barangaymates and barkadas pose made by Mar Roxas's residents in Barangay Holy Spirit in Quezon City. RODEL VELAYO

work by its barangay captain, Felicito Valmocina, the support of barangay officials and the cooperation of the residents of the community. Barangay Holy Spirit was able to successfully transform itself from a deprived community into a model barangay that is clean, green and environment friendly completely independent of the city government in terms of garbage collection and disposal.

Part of the set-up that had enabled was a municipal resource facility which also houses a recyclable craft center to support the community's recycling program geared to provide a stable source of livelihood for residents.

New path for exploration

Constantino found solace she needed for the Langston Gallery art project.

With the valuable support and cooperation of the center's beneficiaries and officers in charge, Ivonne B. Segura, and inspired by Jr. Balagtas's work, the artist was able to initiate a series of workshops where she demonstrated alternative ways of improving handicrafts out of recycled materials.

"The experience created a new path for exploration," said Constantino who was able to produce functional objects and decorative crafts out of found objects from trash. Out of aluminum soft drink tin cans, for example, the artist was able to fashion tiny bowls as part of a decorative wall treatment.

Corrugated boards and paper tubes were made into a coffee table and discards from soda cans were transformed into charming candle holders. Bin candles framed from plastic egg trays. Old books and worn-out jeans were made into book shelves, and corrugated boards, discarded wood, rubber tires and jeans were converted into stools.

As a whole, working in the community and the opportunity to contribute to the efforts of Barangay Holy Spirit not only gave Constantino an enriching and rewarding experience, but also gave her a new perspective on everyday materials. "I can never look at them about recycling anymore. I look at discards differently and see them in a different light, like the possibility of being able to breathe a new life into old items."

Pleasant surprise

Weeks after the workshops, a return visit to Barangay Holy Spirit presented a pleasant surprise for the artist.

The people at the craft center had made their own versions of her designs, pleasing her to no end and giving her an assurance that she had made an impression on the residents who were now producing new products based on her ideas.

"My direct involvement with them," she says, "created a sense of motivation and inspiration for me. It is a good feeling when you see people [who] you collaborate with (further) yield positive results to help create an impact on the community in the future."

Somehow Constantino and the folks at Barangay Holy Spirit will never look at bottles, cans, cardboard and paper the same way again.

METROBRIEFS

Call center agent found dead inside his car

A 27-YEAR-OLD call center agent was found dead inside his car in Pasay on Sunday morning, PO3 Felizito Bolipata of Pasay police said victim Erwin Lee de Asuncion, of Hong Kong Street, Pandacan, Manila City, sustained multiple stab wounds on different parts of his body. He said police were informed by residents about an abandoned dark Mitsubishi Lancer (BGZ 491) around 6 a.m. When authorities checked, they found the bloodied victim slumped on the floor of the van's passenger seat. Bolipata said they have ruled out robbery as motive because all the victim's valuables, including cell phone and wallet with cash, were intact.

Tina G. Santos

Marikina realty firm robbed by 3 men; 4 employees hurt

THREE armed men barged inside an establishment in Marikina City late this morning, carted away undetermined amount of money and wounded four employees. Robbed was Evangelista Flip and Pastry Inc. located on Gil Fernando Ave., Barangay Sta. Elena. Initial investigation showed that two of the three suspects, armed with .45-cal. revolvers, barged into the office at past noon and declared a holdup. The suspects also were being hunted.

Kristine Felisse Mangosing

Caloocan sets intensified campaign against dengue

THE CALOOCAN government has come up with a more intensified campaign to mark the occurrence of dengue in the city. Mayor Enrico Echiverri has tasked the barangay executives and barangay health workers to intensify the drives, make them regular and barangays are down so that there may not arise an increasing grounds of the disease carriers. The mayor sees enforcement people to be the release of a report by the National Epidemiology Center, which ranked Caloocan third among the cities of Metro Manila with the highest number of dengue cases this year (504 cases). Quezon City topped the list with 811 cases, followed by Manila with 655. The report said 17,220 dengue cases were reported between Jan. 1 to April 2, higher than the 11,212 cases were during the same period last year.

Kristine Felisse Mangosing

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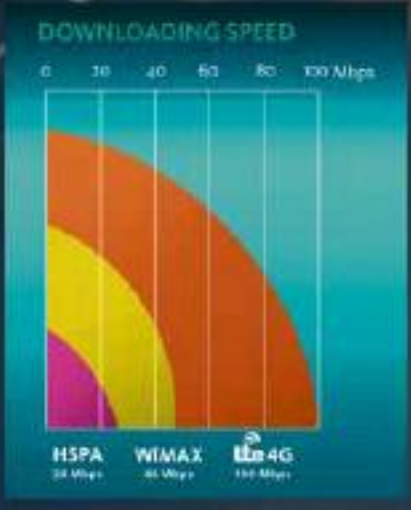

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The WORLD

Lito Lorente B. Sorio

Gadhafi offers ceasefire

TRIPOLI—Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi said on Saturday he was ready for a ceasefire and negotiations presided NATO "stop its planes", but he refused to give up power as rebels and Western powers demand.

Weeks of Western air strikes have failed to dislodge the Libyan leader, but have instead inspired a stubborn air war that Gadhafi looked to have been winning with government forces held at bay in the east and around the besieged city of Misrata, while fighting for control of the western mountains.

But with neither side apparently able to gain the upper hand, Gadhafi struck a conciliatory tone in an 89-minute televised address to the nation in the early hours of Saturday.

"(Libya) is ready until now to enter a ceasefire," said Gadhafi, speaking from behind a desk and aided by reams of paper scanned to what appeared to be hand-written notes.

"We were the first to welcome a ceasefire and we were the first to accept a ceasefire ... but the (October 2001) attack has not stopped," he said. "The gate to peace is open."

Gadhafi denied mass attacks on civilians and challenged NATO to find him 1,000 people who had been killed in the conflict. "We did not attack them or rescue the rats ... why are they attacking us?" asked Gadhafi, referring to European countries involved in the air strikes. "Let us negotiate with you, the countries that attack us. Let us negotiate."

But as he spoke, NATO aeroplanes hit three targets close to the television building in Tripoli in what state media said was an attempt to kill Gadhafi who has ruled Libya for 41 years.

The air strikes left a large crater outside the attorney general's office but did not damage the building and hit two other government offices housed in colonial-era buildings. It was not immediately clear if there were any casualties.

Previous ceasefire offers have been rebuffed by NATO as Libyan government forces continued to fight on, wounding which looked as though it would be rejected as Gadhafi indicated he wanted both sides to stop fighting at once, saying "a ceasefire cannot be from one side".

More importantly though, the Libyan leader refused to leave the country or step down, the central demand of the rebels, the United States, and allies of France and Britain which are leading the NATO air campaign.

"I'm not leaving my country," Gadhafi said. "No one can force me to leave my country and no one can tell me not to fight for my country."

Gadhafi's forces showed no sign of giving up the fight either, claiming to have captured the port of the city of Misrata on Friday, the last major rebel outpost in western Libya, but NATO said it saw no evidence of this.

Libya's government has threatened to attack any ships approaching Misrata, potentially disrupting resupplies of a lifeline to the country's eastern insurgent heartland. NATO and Gadhafi forces had laid mines on the approaches to the harbour, amidst siege for weeks, and forced a temporary halt to humanitarian deliveries.

"NATO forces are now actively engaged in countering the same threat to ensure the flow of aid continues," the alliance said. Further west, the war spilled into Tunisia, when Gadhafi's forces fired into a rebel stronghold in the frontier. The Libyan army shelled the Tunisian border town of Dehiba, damaging buildings and wounding at least one person, witnesses said. They said Libyan soldiers drove into the town in a tank chasing rebels.

Tunisian Deputy Foreign Minister Radhouane Nouicer, speaking on Al Jazeera television, said casualties, including a young girl, were inflicted when the conflict spilled over on Friday. REUTERS

ANOTHER WEDDING. US actress Grace Kelly and Prince Rainier of Monaco being wed on April 19, 1956. Prince Albert and his South African bobsled bride Charlene Wittstock will celebrate their wedding over two days on July 2 and 3. Carried out in a private ceremony, the wedding of Prince Albert will be an even bigger event than his parents' wedding. AFP

Modest move? US slaps sanctions against top Syrian officials

WASHINGTON—A broad freeze on assets with a long history of enmity to around the United States came under mild troops against his own people, killing hundreds of protesters. His country the extent to split along sectarian lines, with the violence potentially spilling over to its neighbors, some of whom are close allies of Washington.

Libya? Iran? Not quite Syria.

And yet, as the Syrian government's bloody crackdown intensified Friday, President Barack Obama has not demanded that President Bashar Assad resign, and he has not considered military action. Instead, on Friday the White House took a step that many experts say will have a modest impact: announcing forward sanctions against three senior officials, including a brother and a cousin of Assad.

The divergent American responses illustrate the inability of even the most powerful United States to force countries like the United States to those countries. But all the parallels to Libya, Assad a position isolated internationally than the Libyan leader, Moammar Gadhafi, his command a more capable army which experts say is unlikely to come on him, as the military in Egypt did to President Hosni Mubarak. And the ripple effects of Assad's career would be both wider and more unpredictable than in the case of Gadhafi.

"Syria is important in a way that Libya is not," said Steven L. Cook, senior fellow for Middle East studies at the Council on Foreign Relations. "There is no central U.S. interest engaged in Libya. But a greatly destabilized Syria has implications for Iraq, it has implications for Lebanon, it has implications for Israel."

Those complexities have made Syria a less clear-cut case, even for those who have called for more robust U.S. action against Libya. Sens. John McCain, Lindsey Graham and Joseph I. Lieberman, urged Obama this week to denounce Assad's resignation. But Mr. Cain, an early advocate of a no-fly zone over Libya, said he opposed military action in Syria.

Human rights groups are even more cautious. "If Obama were to call for Assad to go, I don't think it would change much on the ground in any way, shape, or form," said Joe Stork, deputy director of the Middle East division of Human Rights Watch, which had supported military action in Libya. In this case, he said, sanctions were the right move.

Those measures freeze the assets of three top officials, most notably Maher Assad, the president's brother and a brigade commander who is leading the operations in Daraa. But Syrian Assad has used its money in Europe and Middle Eastern banks, putting it beyond the reach of the Treasury.

The measures also take aim at Syria's intelligence agency and the Quds Force of the Iranian Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, as well as Syrian military officials under heavy sanctions from the United States. Iran, officials said, is using the Iran to funnel Iran gas, barrels and other materials.

The administration did not impose sanctions on Assad, saying it focused on those directly responsible for human rights abuses. A senior official said the United States would use because to add him to the list if the violence did not stop. But the White House insisted he be acknowledging that it could still proceed on him to show restraint.

"Our goal is to end the violence and we are not opening for the Syrian people's legitimate aspirations," said a spokesman for the National Security Council, Tommy Vietor. "Those are among the U.S. government's most powerful available tools to put more these sentences." New York Times News Service

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Kakistocracy: Rule of the Unprincipled, Unethical, and Unqualified

By Dr. Ronnie V. Amorado

Kakistocracy behavior explains the world's woes in government corruption, chronic misconduct, corporate scandals, recklessness in the Church, anomalies in civil society, personal indiscretions and infidelity, the disorientation of rule of law, and even why governance of Aquinas-authoritarian rulers and despotic rulers. If corruption is known as 'evil of public trust,' it is kakistocracy that binds acts of betrayal.

Kakistocracy is also the cultivation of corruption in society.

Date: Friday, May 6, 2011 - 1:00-5:00 PM
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More information on this and other similar events during May 2 - 6 will be on www.integrityph.com

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Obama vows to help grads who are illegals

MIAMI—Stepping up his demand to change America's immigration laws, President Barack Obama promised graduates at a Dip multicultural community college in Miami on Friday that he'll keep working to help students not legally in the U.S. to become American citizens.

The president's renewed endorsement of the DREAM Act, which has become a rallying cry for Hispanic and other students around the country, drew enthusiastic applause from more than 1,000 graduates of Miami Dade College at their commencement ceremony. The audience saw part of an increasingly important political constituency in a race that will be crucial to the president's 2012 re-election hopes.

The college graduates were Hispanic students than any other higher education institution in the U.S. Obama took note that some students had recently identified themselves publicly as immigrants without legal status in the country. AP

WORLD BRIEFS

Japan PM's handling of nuke crisis criticized

TOKYO—Criticism of the Japanese government's handling of the crisis at a radiation-spewing nuclear power plant increased Saturday with a new poll indicating three-quarters of people disapprove and a key adviser quitting in protest. A Kyodo News service poll released Saturday showed that Prime Minister Naoto Kan's support ratings were plunging. The poll reported that 76 percent of the respondents think Kan is not resolving sufficient leadership in handling the quake, tsunami and nuclear crisis, up from 60.1 percent in the previous survey in late March. It also showed 23.6 percent of respondents think Kan should resign immediately, up from 13.8 percent in the previous survey. Toshiso Kosaka, a professor at the University of Tokyo's graduate school and an expert on radiation exposure, announced late Friday that he was stepping down as a government adviser over what he described as unsafe, oligarchical measures. Prime Minister Naoto Kan appointed Kosaka after the magnitude-9.0 earthquake and tsunami that struck northeastern Japan on March 11. The disaster left 25,000 people dead or missing and damaged several reactors at the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear power plant—setting off the world's worst nuclear crisis since Chernobyl in 1986. AP

Death toll from US tornadoes rises to 334

TUSCALOOSA, Alabama—The death toll from killer tornadoes that cut a swath of death and destruction in the southern United States rose to 334 late Friday as President Barack Obama joined shocked Americans in expressing his grief. "We're going to make sure that you're not forgotten," Obama said on a visit to Tuscaloosa after traveling to cities where homes were demolished. "You never seen devastation like this. It is heartbreaking." In Alabama alone, Wednesday's deadly storms claimed 238 lives. The state Emergency Management Agency reported. In addition, 1,116 people in the state were either hospitalized or injured while 28 others were listed as missing. The toll made the storms the third-deadliest tornado tragedy in US history, and the worst to strike the country since 352 people were killed on March 21, 1932.

China imprisons 14 in tainted milk case

BEIJING—Chinese courts have sentenced 14 people to prison for producing or selling melamine-tainted milk powder, state reports said Saturday, highlighting Beijing's struggle to stamp out rampant sales of phony or tainted food and medicine. Three years after one of numerous to infant formula killed six babies and prompted a shake-up of China's dairy industry, authorities still are seeing tons of tainted milk. Adding melamine to watered-down milk can make it appear to have adequate protein.

5 dead in most violent protest in Uganda

KAMPALA, Uganda—The capital city was brought to a virtual standstill Friday as angry protesters set up roadblocks, setting three blazes throughout Kampala, and the police and military cordoned off neighborhoods in the largest and most violent day of protests since the demonstrations started nearly three weeks ago. At least five people were confirmed dead and more than 100 injured, security and humanitarian officials said Friday, as the police and the military fired live ammunition, along with tear gas and rubber bullets, to disperse growing crowds. New York Times News Service

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This section is dedicated to Filipinos overseas toiling on land and at sea, in factories, in construction sites and in the homes of the world to secure a better life for their families. These are their stories.

PH teachers shine in Cambodia

By Lot Bunkal

THEIR PRIMARY goal when they left the country for Cambodia may have been to earn more money. But at the end, Filipino teachers end up giving their best to this country.

Take the case of Jayson Umalisang, who left the Philippines six years ago for something job that runs to give him higher pay in US dollars, part of which he could send back home to his parents and two sisters. He also wanted to embark on an adventure and a life of independence from his family.

His mother would not let him go at first, fearing for his safety, but he gobbled the opportunity after being accepted for a teaching job in a private school in Cambodia's capital Phnom Penh.

It was for him a completely new world where he met people from different parts of the globe. He was able to visit the famous heritage destination Angkor Wat in Siem Reap and other places of interest. The challenge cost at the same time at least P45 to a dollar and that went a long way in enabling his sisters and cousins relatives to be helped.

He went through the stage of being lonely, doing all the work at home and in school, and facing a language barrier in a country where only a few speak English. But what was really the Khmer language, he was able to mingle with the local population and found that "they are a friendly and enthusiastic people. He said he likes the food, like the Khmer cuisine, which he described as "very rich and interesting."

In his six years of teaching Math and English to Grades 9 and 10 students, he has also been assigned to Social and Economics and English subjects to college students of the Missionary University and the Phnom Penh Center for Cambodia. He observed that students "made great up and get noticed."

But Filipino teachers are "patient and heartwarming," he observed.

New heaven

Another teacher, Joyce Ivy Dizon, 28, first taught in Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam in 2005, but "I wanted to experience living here in Phnom Penh in 2009" on the invitation of a friend. She enjoyed the teaching job he ran now, but felt the needed change. She went back to study, and "found a new heaven" in the Cambodia International Academy in Phnom Penh.

Joyce brought her children to Cambodia so she wouldn't miss them. Together with her husband and children, she said she has "found a new home that will touch our souls."

She has not had any problem with the locals, as she has adapted to their culture and climate. She teaches algebra to senior and English for middle level students. The pay and work conditions are "not as much to type in Germany" but the "less thing" she likes in the city is the "simple way of life."

She avails Mondays through Fridays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and spends her weekends with the family. "I am not stressed here," she added.

Most teachers in Cambodia accept second services in the evenings. Joyce said, considering she cannot do because she has her hands full with her own babies.

Working in a multicultural community makes teaching so much fun, she added. "Every day, you learn more things from your colleagues and students. If there is one thing I consider a challenge, it's how to motivate myself and me something to give the best for my students," Joyce said.

Another teacher, Jennifer Ann Ramos, 27, started with a sponsored assignment, visit the area in Cambodia to apply for the job that she is currently holding. For three years, she has been teaching all subjects in the primary level of a Christian school.

Exposure and involvement in a multicultural community are some of the benefits of working abroad, Jennifer said. "Each visit, I have to learn five antecedents in a class. I not only teach but also get to learn and appreciate my kids' culture. I get more interested about foreign affairs, culture, government, particularly about my students' countries," she explained.

There were 237 Filipino teachers in Cambodia as of December 31, 2010, the Philippine Embassy in Phnom Penh said.

"Most of them work for private schools and universities at levels ranging from pre-school to post-graduate studies," according to Ambassador Raul T. Hong Lee in reply to an e-mail questionnaire from the Inquirer.

JOYCE IVA VARGAS (second from left) poses with her students during a recent outing in Cambodia

JAYSON UMALISANG poses with his students in an international cohesive Phnom Penh. The Cambodian capital now hosts 237 overseas Filipino teachers.

Some Filipino teachers also occupy academic supervisory posts like principal or dean, he said. Their salaries vary depending on the school and teaching level, the embassy said.

Memorable

Jayson said he has had numerous memorable experiences, one of which was when he had a Christmas lunch with his students and they gave him a gift and numerous Christmas cards with heartfelt messages. He was so happy to know his students appreciated his work, he said.

But in Cambodia's developing, things will not always be the same for migrant professionals in due course. Jayson confirmed that for the past few years, international organizations in Cambodia have started to hire its own work force because of the lower cost of hiring personnel.

"The wages we get here are now big or those being given in Pan Global countries," he said in an emailed reply to an interview. "Although unfortunate, we don't get bothered," he added without further elaboration.

That, he plans to go back home this year to explore other employment opportunities in other countries, or to finish his Master's degree.

For Joyce, she will never forget being described by her students to be "best lesson Teacher" they ever had.

She and her husband have not made any plans to leave another country in the next years. For Joyce said she would come back to the Philippines only when she retires.

She said her school sets being assembled by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges as she expected the students would get quality education. "If every school here is accredited by international school governing bodies and good education is ensured, I believe that southwestically inclined students will be the product of our local schools," she said.

Joyce believes Cambodia will welcome more investments who can contribute to the welfare of their people.

Jennifer added that even though Filipino teachers' main purpose for coming in Cambodia is a better financial position, they "give their best" in their work.

"I think it's in our culture to be patient and resilient. Moreover, Cambodian treat Filipinos with respect," she said.

She has since some improvement with the educational system in that country, with the influx of overseas help and foreign aid, when volunteers to help improve education in Cambodia.

She said she and her husband are open to explore work opportunities in other countries but now in the near future they will stay in the area they are in.

More tips to up your IELTS score

By Tony Santiago
Guest Writer

THE INTERNATIONAL English Language Testing System (IELTS) listening module is considered to be the most difficult. It is the first of a three-module, three-hour exam that starts from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

You will be asked to listen to a 30-minute recording of several conversations divided into four sections. The first section is the easiest. The next section becomes progressively more difficult. There is a 10-second pause time for each set of questions and another 30 seconds to review your answers.

You will be given a test booklet where you will find questions that you need to answer by listening to the conversation. There are 40 items, broadly in the blanks to multiple choice questions. At the end of the 30 minutes you will be given 10 minutes to transfer your final answer to a separate answer sheet.

One reason many candidates find the listening exam difficult is the unfamiliar accent. The accents generally used in the IELTS is British or Australian, although many other accents can be heard such as Canadian, Singaporean (English), New Zealand etc. Most Filipino candidates are only used to the American accent.

Strategies

Given that the four-part exam is designed with increasing difficulty, it is best that you concentrate on completing most of your points from the first to the third sections because these are supposed to be the easier sections. If you can answer the first three sections first, you only need to get 8 more points in the last one.

Study the accents

Memorize (exactly) the British and Australian language by listening to CD compilations of the respective languages, conversations by at least One hour a day for the next two weeks. You can also watch and listen to British or Australian movies, news and TV shows (you can rewatch the internet for these practice CDs or you can go to Youtube and look at your convenience).

Go to free practice centers

IDP Australia has a Practice Center where you can use their review materials for free, while the British Council also has a review center where you can also use their materials (but if you are registered to take the exam with them).

Don't be a neat freak

Some students, in their desire to be neat and presentable, will erase their wrong answers. This is a mistake because it is possible that an answer will be given while you are still erasing. Just make your corrected final answer beside the space provided for neat erasure (see previous answer).

Use text codes

For the sake of speed, jot down what you heard using codes, shorthand, text spelling—whatever works for you (this technique does not apply to digits and names of people and places). You can get write the full word during the 30 seconds you are given to check your answers to refresh in the IC-minute transfer time. For example if you have to write "Thanksgiving," you can just write "tnx" in the IELTS listening exam; answer may be given in such a rapid sequence that you may not have time to write the whole word.

Don't lose concentration

The important thing is not to lose concentration. Some students write once and still to think to particular item, specially an easy one, one is item number 4 (usually an address or name of a person) will get mad at themselves for not getting an easy question that their mind will be fixed on blaming themselves rather than on concentrating to the conversation. They will only go back to the proper state of mind after three items in which time they would have lost four items answered just one.

Try this technique

Most students will lose their concentration within the 30 minutes that the CD recording is played. You can employ a technique called total immersion listening which calls for you to imagine that you are part of the conversation you are listening to. In instead of listening to the CD recording as an IELTS test taker, imagine yourself as in a live and interactive participant in the conversation (see example next week).

The author is head coach of Queen's English IELTS Review Center (www.queensreview.com)

EDITOR'S NOTE

On last week's practice questions, the first five responses with three right answers were Ken Dizon Barreno, J. Sharene Manson, Ishaly Cabrera, Aeva Bautista and Ednie Chang. (Name me if response on April 24 did not answer all 5 questions, some gave wrong answers.) For inquiries, e-mail globalpinoy@inquirer.com.ph.

More IGG soon be up for grabs again next week.

When your US visa is revoked without notice

IMFO
Conwin Santos Estrellado

MARC WAS a holder of a 10-year United States multiple-entry visitor's visa issued in 2005. Since its issuance, Marc would visit his daughter, Marissa, who is a student in a California university. This year, Marissa is finally going to graduate and Marc would like to attend her graduation ceremony.

Unfortunately, Marc received a notice from the US Embassy consular section informing him that his visa was revoked last month. He is hoping to be able to go to the embassy so the consulate can physically cancel the visa. In this letter, he was told that he may no longer use his visa even if it still has a remaining validity period of five years.

Marc's prior immigration history may very well have been the reason of the revocation of his visa. The Department of State, through the consular officers, is given the discretion to revoke and cancel visas. A new regulation issued on April 27, 2011, reinforces this this power and eliminates the visa holder's ability to request a review or appeal of a revocation. It also allows the consular officer to revoke the visa without notice if it is "impracticable" to notify the visa holder.

Reasons for revocation

According to the new regulation, "security concerns" were taken into account in justifying additional authority and wider discretion to consular officers.

Among the new grounds that allow revocation of an already issued visa. When a consular officer receives derogatory information that renders the visa holder ineligible for the visa that he originally holds, a revocation of the visa may take place. There must be no actual finding of ineligibility to support the revocation.

Aside from eligibility and national security grounds for revocation, the other enumerated grounds for revocation include the visa holder was issued or obtained from the United States, presented false or ignored and given to the visa holder's withdrawn for application for admission, and a prior misrepresentation waiver granted was withdrawn.

Provisional revocation

Consular officers can revoke visas immediately while considering facts subsequently revealed by ineligibilities. This is called the "provisional revocation." Generally, notice of revocations will be provided to the visa holder but only "if practicable." This means that even if the visa holder is not yet notified, his visa may be considered revoked provisionally. Once the revocation is entered into the Home Department's Consular Lookout and Support System (CLASS), the visa is no longer valid for travel.

When the findings of the consular officer become final to warrant a revocation, after a provisional revocation, the visa holder is not allowed and will be asked to submit the passport was to be stamped with the word "revoked." The rules state clear that if the visa holder does not surrender the visa for physical cancellation, the "finding of revocation still stands."

Re-applying for the visa

Since 1997 judicial courts have been divested of jurisdiction to review the findings and decisions of consular officers with regard to revocations of visas. The latest regulations consider the findings of revocation final. The visa holder who believes that the visa is revoked without sufficient basis to issue them re-apply for another nonimmigrant visa. In this new application, he will be afforded an opportunity to present his eligibility for the issuance of the visa that was previously revoked. This will require the applicant to be in possession of countervailing proof of eligibility.

Danger of losing visas

Each year it has become increasingly complicated to obtain visas for some people who are truly deserving. Fraudulent applications as well as abuse to the use of nonimmigrant visas are the reasons for the more regulations. As a note, migrant visa holder should understand the value of having one and make sure that it is used properly.

(Attorney may be reached at imfo@yahoo.com or at 687-1777 or at 7211903)

Smartphone Superpowers

So four weeks into our nifty little crash courses, have you guys gotten the hang of things yet? Well, we're on to lesson number four of our smartphone curriculum. Now that we all know the crazy stuff a smartphone is capable of - like rendering a PC extinct - it's time to take some of the industry-leading models for a little road test.

Four smartphone top guns are put thru the wringer so you can, one, swipe that credit card and get yourself one (don't fight it, you know you want it), and two, know what to do with the sleek, shiny new toy in your paw. Leave using these babies merely as phones are just so 1999.

SONY ERICSSON XPERIA ARC

You are going to own the smallest flat screen Bravia and be proud of it. The latest Xperia model from Sony Ericsson combines the power of an Android 2.3 Gingerbread smartphone with the unrivalled strength of Sony's cutting-edge consumer electronics line. In short, the Arc is a bona fide entertainment goliath.

Grab all your favorite apps and discover new ones in the Android Market. Run Facebook, Angry Birds, Foursquare, Tweetdeck, Kindle, Accuweather, WhatsApp, Need for Speed...etc, the Arc won't disappoint.

Get Moon away with its Bravia Engine behind the 4.2-inch LED display. Full HD video recording. 8.1 megapixel camera. Exmor R low light photo technology enhancements. HDMI out, and finally, the sleek, stylish design.

Experience it at www.sonyericsson.com

HTC DESIRE S

Wow! This thing is amazing - packed with a punch as it runs on the Qualcomm Snapdragon 1Ghz processor, and filled with lots of finesse thru the truly revolutionary HTC Sense platform. This Android 2.3 Gingerbread run smartphone is a beautiful monster.

With the Desire S, you will own a phone that is as smart as it gets. For starters, it automatically gives you the time and weather of your current location. Want more and opened an account in every social network known to man? The phone neatly streams your Facebook, Twitter, Flickr and Flixfr feeds in one screen. Set up your email account. Get the latest news with Google Reader that syncs seamlessly with the phone. Customize your homescreen. Near field communication. This phone is so darn smart it knows to ring louder when it is in your bag! Wow.

For all the bells and whistles, check it out at www.htc.com

BLACKBERRY TORCH

Get a load of yet another Blackberry masterpiece! The latest BlackBerry 6.0 OS just lent its prowess to the BB Torch for the easiest, smoothest use ever.

Pick, glimpse email device will set you apart from the rest. View your emails in the clearest LCD display quality because the Torch is equipped with a TFT capacitive screen. Oh you're worried about the security of your email? You won't have to now that BB just made sending emails more secure than ever. Let's not forget the renowned BlackBerry Messenger to instantly talk to other Berry heads from your circle. And it's not just for chat; swap pics, music and videos. It's always better to show that breathtaking photo that try to describe it).

Type out everything easily because of the full consistent keys and on-screen keypads. Open multiple sites with fast page loading and zoomed browsing. Receive feeds from your social networking circle and view them all at once. The Torch will give you an experience you will not regret.

Save yourself to the BlackBerry Torch rate at worldwide.blackberry.com

SAMSUNG GALAXY TAB

A tablet you say? Imagine a 7-inch tablet you can bring wherever you need it, wherever you want to. It goes by the name Samsung Galaxy Tab. This device runs with the Android 2.2 froyo platform and 1GHz Cortex A8 processor giving you a powerful portable device at your hands.

Have all the highly-rated applications in your possession and experience them on the 7inch x 1024 x 600 screen. You want other ideas to enjoy that screen? Update your FB status and view your friends' photos. Check the latest celebrity tweets. Play the trendiest games.

You can also enjoy all your favorite books, here, you can even carry around your entire collection, on the go. Want to watch a movie while waiting for your meeting to start? View one on full HD video playback. And if you need to call and text, go right ahead because the Galaxy Tab can do it too. Cool right?

Swipe the opportunity and check the Galaxy Tab at www.samsungmobile.com

So there you go. But you're having a hard time deciding which to get, huh? Whichever model you acquire, you can now fully unleash its potential because we just gave you the know-how on these smartphones.

Hold your horses, it still gets better. Amplify the power of your new smartphone with an amazing data service from an amazing network. SMART gives you the tools to make the most out of your stylish new smartphone. Not only does it have an unbeatable nationwide reach, it also has unlimited data plans on its plate. Now you can maximize that smartphone upgrade, anywhere, and not worry about your surfing time. How phenomenal is that?

Experience your smartphone's extraordinary features

HTC Desire S	Sony Ericsson Xperia Arc	BlackBerry Torch	Samsung Galaxy Tab
• HTC Sense platform gives a delightful phone user experience • Friend Stream combines all your social media together • Google Reader gives instant access from favorite websites and blogs	• Sony Mobile Bravia Engine to view high def pics and videos • Motion gaming to enhance gaming experience. Turn, swing, move your phone to control your action • 8.1 megapixel camera with Sony Exmor R captures high quality pictures and stills in low light	• Industry-leading push delivery technology and security to improve email experience • BlackBerry Messenger, a fun way to chat, share pics or videos with other BB users • Tabbed browsing to manage multiple open websites	• 7-inch device to enjoy more conveniently • Bring one less of the books on the go • Full HD playback to watch videos and movies in high quality

SMART

WHAT'S INSIDE
■ Pacquiao nears peak form, weight /A34

Sunday SPORTS
Editor Teddyvic S. Melendres
Assistant Editor Francis T. J. Gloria

Kings, Texters break tie in Puerto Princesa

By Mesung B. Castillo

PUERTO PRINCESA—Barangay Ginebra and Talk 'N Text break their 1-1 tie in this lopsided island finale, with the Gin Kings fielding reserves after a dazzling Game 2-victory just two nights ago.

Sometime 6 o'clock p.m. at the Puerto Princesa Coliseum, and based on the body language of the Kings during the first flight, it's here yesterday, it was obvious that they have forgotten the disbelieving the Texters dealt them in the series opener.

"We have a road on them already," Ginebra guard Ronald Tubid said confidently in Filipino. "We now know how to beat them. We now know how to guard them, especially (import Paul) Harris."

Right now, all eyes will be on Jimmy Alapag and Harris as the top Texters struggled big time last Friday in a 106-100 loss.

Coach Chot Reyes pointed out to Alapag's 1-of-11 performance from three-point range and Harris' night high seven turnovers that helped doom the Texters.

"My hero is Bal, Jimmy (Alapag) is (the series)," Reyes said. "He is nowhere to be found."

And Alapag was man enough to admit that he didn't do a good job there and vowed to some look listed for the team.

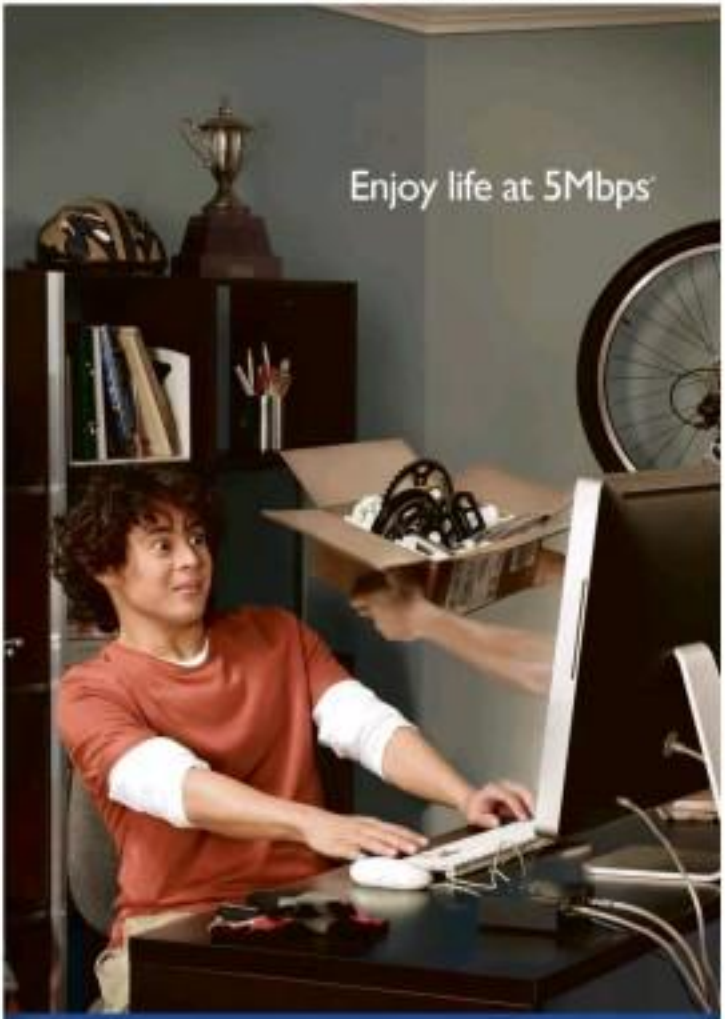
"He was just being honest," Alapag said when asked to comment on Reyes' statement. "I know I need to play well, knock down my big shots and (make better decision on the floor)."

The Texters had 16 something seconds left on the clock Friday to try to forge overtime, but Alapag, rushed the clock and opted for a three-point shot from way out that missed the mark.

"For me have lived and died by that shot," Reyes also said Friday night.

Ushers pulled out a surprise package in rookie John Wilson in Game 2, with the former NCAA MVP finishing with 16 points that helped shoot down Ginebra.

Wilson also completed a three-point play that showed Ginebra ahead to stay and played a brilliant defensive game in helping shot down Harris to just six second half points after the Talk 'N Text import scored 20 in the first two periods.



Davao, Dipolog booters advance

DAVAO AND Dipolog clinched slots in the group stage of the PFF Inside Under-23 National Cup after finishing 1-2 in the Mindanao regionals at the Dipolog City Field in Cotabato City.

Davao pulled off back-to-back 2-0 victories over Dipolog and beside Cotabato to secure a berth in the next phase with a game to spare.

Sustaining its glittering attacking display, Dipolog claimed a spot in the next round yesterday with a 7-0 drubbing of North Cotabato.

Michael Chua and Michael Yuhing scored twice, while former national player Jerry Barbaso, Clifford Hanipoal and Emeritus Alcalde were also on target for Dipolog, which overwhelmed Cagayan de Oro, 7-1, last Friday.

The group-stage will be held in Bacolod and Laguna from May 4-16 with the top two teams of each group advancing to the monsoon semifinals on May 18 and 19 in Buenos Aires, Iloilo. —With reports from Rudolf B. Tapay

ADT: Tabuena 5 shots down

BAUI, GAMU, PHILIPPINES, Malaysia—Teenager and rookie pro Miguel Tabuena shot a 2-under par 70 Saturday to remain four strokes off tournament leader Barry Hansen in the $75,000 Desaware Masters 2011.

The 20-year-old Ateneo Grenco alter touched base a 1-39 total with his opening 69 at the Clearwater Sanctuary Golf Resort.

Artemio Murakami, the only other Filipino in this event on the Asian Development Tour, struggled with a 74 after his first round 71 and made the halfway cut with a just under-to-square at 1-92.

Thirteen players shot a sterling 70 for a 36-hole total of 138 and a two-stroke lead over Chinese Taipei's Hsu Chin-pen (71 and 68)Japan's Hiroshi Tai (71 and 68)Japan's Hiroshi Tai (71 and 68)Japan's Hiroshi Tai

Pacquiao nears peak form, weight

By Rap Laureta

HOLLYWOOD—Parlez, the mitts were sent flying off Freddie Roach's hands by pound-for-pound Manny Pacquiao as his unbeaten punches elongated in put-any opponent down and out.

"Maybe I'm thin, but my punches are thick," Pacquiao said in Filipino on Friday as he dripped sweat after a torrid two-hour workout at the Wild Card Gym here.

Though he didn't institute his weight, Roach earlier told Manila-based sportswriters that Pacquiao tipped the scales at 147 pounds on Thursday night on the dot for his defense of the World Boxing Association welterweight crown on May 7 at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas.

"It's OK, I'm just pumped up," explaining why he had to pause a co-while working on the mitts with Roach when it was supposed to be a light training day.

Hardly taking a break, Pacquiao pummeled Roach with his elbow, feet and even near-combinations aimed at breaking down Monday's 29-year-old body into submission.

"I just want to make sure," said Pacquiao, admitting that he's bracing for Mosley who knocked Antonio Margarito out in 2009, not the Mosley that bowed to Shane Mosley in June 2010. In unanimous decision and settled for a draw with Sergio Mora in his last two fights.

Surprisingly, Pacquiao said he'd marched only the tape of the Mosley-Margarito bout and didn't see them finish it.

"Well, he (Mosley) threw a lot of punches," observed Pacquiao. "But I'm 100 percent ready."

Though Pacquiao didn't show a hint of exhaustion Thursday, he later admitted he's tired while he was being given a refreshment by assistant trainer Rafael Bernardo inside the cramped, sweaty dressing room of Wild Card.

After a few minutes, however, Pacquiao was back in his element while dressing up for a conversation about with Mike.

After acknowledging the huge throng that had gathered at the Wild Card premises, Pacquiao proceeded to his clothing store-cum-souvenir shop to have a late lunch of soup, white rice and beef tapa from the nearby Nai's Thai restaurant.

PAINFUL? Pacquiao gets a rubdown from assistant trainer Rickey Fernandez after a training session. REY LAUREL

Roach's dilemma: How to slow Pacman down

By Rap Laureta

HOLLYWOOD—It's a situation trainers ridiculously prefer—a fighter already reaching peak fitness week before the big match.

But in the case of Hall of Fame trainer Freddie Roach, his problem is how to slow down pound-for-pound king Manny Pacquiao, who refuses to ease up during training for his May 7 showdown with Shane Mosley.

"He's on fire," said Roach.

According to Roach, there's little left to do with his title fight against Shane Mosley just eight days away.

After two consecutive great workouts, Roach feels confident that Pacquiao will retain his WBO welterweight crown under any circumstances.

"Whatever Mosley does, he already knows the answer," said Roach. "He's ready as can be."

Roach and Pacquiao have a spirited mitts session Friday with focus on finding angles of attack.

And there were many.

In some moments, the concentration was on the body. In other instances, it shifted to the head. Sometimes, Pacquiao finds ways to land shots in both areas, dazzling in and out, sending Roach's counter lunges while leaving punch marks.

When Roach ordered the exchanges, Pacquiao peppered him with jabs and hooks, prompting Roach to nod in appreciation.

Toward the end of the session, Pacquiao revved up the assault and added fingerless punches.

Roach left the impact, but did not relent either. Repeatedly coaxing in on Pacquiao, who avoided being pinned on the ropes.

As soon as the final bell sounded, the media and other people allowed inside applauded after witnessing another well-choreographed performance between two familiar and comparable partners.

Roach was so happy with what transpired, he blindly forgot the punches that pierced his body shield many times.

Then the pain throbbed and Roach was forced to request former WBC international bantamweight titlist Jerry Elding for a massage on his chest and hands.

Ginebra survives meltdown

RICKY SANTOS, the PBA's operations and technical director, had to celebrate his birthday one day in advance this year because he had to be in Pulanduan on April 30. So after Barangay Ginebra's Game 3 of the ongoing Commissioner's Cup finals of series championship series between Alaska and Talk 'N Text today.

Since he didn't want to miss last Friday's Game 2—and it's not as if he were missing pleasure of his guests—Ricky is set up a huge high-definition LED at the third floor rooftop of his ancestral home in Tondo, where his birthday bash was held.

He arrived just in time to catch the last minutes or so of the game with Ginebra leading by seven points.

* * *

IN HUDDLE

Bebs Celis

Frankly, quite a number of oldtimers did not expect Ginebra to recover after the Kings's dismal loss in the Tanquang Timtex to Game 1.

I was one of those who thought that the rest of the series would be an uphill climb for the tired and aging Kings.

Perhaps Talk 'N Text coach Chot Reyes shared my thoughts. As he felt off the deep and over what he considered a mismatch by the referees in the closing moments of the game.

The veteran mentor caught an enraged Chot picking up a microphone chair and in the act of smashing it on the Talk 'N Text bench when he got hold of his senses.

He stopped on his tracks and picked up a basketball instead and threw instead, which got the bout of his wrath.

Ricky's high-definition LED closely showed the droplets of water splash all over space as the bottle hit Chot's turned scowl.

* * *

Ibbi threw a suitcase to go before the final buzzer and Dondon dunking he moves. A appeared to be scare-ups for the Kings.

But as I stood up to get some food from the buffet table, in the wink of an eye, Ginebra's lead was whittled down to one-point, 106-106. Then Jeffer Ildefon unraveled two free throws with 44 seconds to go, had a chance to stun the premiere on Gordon but he missed both shots.

Back in Ricky's party, the predominantly pro-Ginebra group dubbed as soldiers-ers, and sports-minded men drew killer. They said Ginebra coach Jong Uichico shouldn't have fielded Ibbi to be crucial moods.

When the final buzzer sounded, with the Gin Kings hanging on to the two-point victory, the raucous showed a haggard drag take a deep breath before becoming a bigwigs of relief.

* * *

Commissioner Chito Salud said Chot will not be fined or sanctioned for smashing the bottle of water on a chair because the ref was not seen by the referees, even if it was caught on cameras.

Titled I tell you it was going to be a bottle of coffee? "he said as he dined on his favorite kilawin kilos and viscera.

Ibbi, who proceeded to the party after the game along with the PBA staff, said if Chot hurled bodily to Talk 'N Text in the first game because the Gin Kings gave up easily.

"They were today because they didn't give up. They fought hard to win."

A earlier James said Chot did not hide his disappointment over the lackluster performance of Jimmy Alapag, his import, and his team as a whole, saying had the game-saver in the hand but missed a triple in the 3s to overtime.

The earlier said he cannot blame Chot for blowing his people. "If he said was true," the ex-PBA said.

As to Ibbi's Rabbit Ears theme, which has been happening since last silver—when he played for Alaska in the finals over a season ago, the Philippine team in Tondo, Ortiz, and when he was still hooked up with Talk 'N Text—a PBA official said he believes Ibbi gets the favors in situations like these even if it a contrast.

I thought I heard somebody tell the official: Tell that to the Marines.

Teenagers shine in Subic triathlon

FOURTEEN-YEAR-OLD triathletes Gabriel Alex Santiago and Magali Bermascon Echanez ended the team sprint to strengthen their bid for 2014 Youth Olympic Games slots in the 2011 ITU Asian Junior Duty International Triathlon Saturday at the Subic Bay Freeport.

Asian Beach Games veteran Philip Jordan, meanwhile, won the silver medal in the junior sprint as the country's top female elite Sea U. Lungi and Rio Mangindang missed a cup Sea finish in the event organized by Triathlon Association of the Philippines (TRAP).

Eighteen-year-old Australian Sandie Van Gorcombin broke off from a six-woman lead pack halfway in the bike leg to snatch her victory over the female elite race sanctioned by the International Triathlon Union (ITU) and Asian Triathlon Confederation (ASTC).

ANG INAABANGAN MONG INQUIRER LIBRE, NASA PNR NA!
LIBRE

Blue Eagles subdue Tigers for 3rd victory

By Cedrik P. Tupas

ATENEO FORCES University of Santo Tomas to shoot miserably en route to a 89-66 victory yesterday that kept the Eagles unbeaten in the 77th Flying V Blaze Preseason Premiere Cup.

The Eagles, opening up a 49-ball blunder inside the paint, held the Tigers to 28 percent shooting en their way to a third straight victory and a tie for the Group A lead with the idle National U Bulldogs.

Jose Hazel D. revived in round 2 to 1-1 after a 78-65 decision of Letran, while Emilio Aguinaldo College upset University of the East, 81-80, in the lowest scoring game of the tournament so far.

KAVIDA

Kirk Long, Xavier Stevens and Yoshie Gonzaga each finished with 20 points and 13 rebounds from 4-for-9, 11-for-19 and 8-for-16 shooting.

But what stood out for Ateneo mentor coach Sandy Arespacochaga was the way the Eagles held the Tigers to just four points in the third quarter.

"I'm just happy with the way we played defense," said Arespacochaga, who filled in for coach Norman Black.

Black, the architect of Ateneo's run of three UAAP straight titles, is in Puerto Princesa with the Gilas 'B Team squad in the FIBA-Asia qualifiers series as team consultant.

The scores

FIRST GAME

ATENEO (89) — Long 20, Stevens 20, Gonzaga 13, Mamaril 6, Mocon 5, Ildefonso 4, Ighalo 3, Ando 3, Cruz 2, Tolentino 2, Ferrer 2, Ybañez 1, Lazo 0, Ramos 0, Ramirez 0, Ramos 0.

UST (66) — Hazel D. 14, Ayaay 13, Ilagan 10, Ilagan 8, Ilagan 7, Ilagan 6, Ilagan 5, Ilagan 3, Ilagan 1, Ilagan 0, Ilagan 0, Ilagan 0.

Quarters: 25-12, 49-28, 69-43, 89-66.

SECOND GAME

EAST (80) — Ilagan 22, Ilagan 18, Ilagan 15, Ilagan 10, Ilagan 8, Ilagan 5, Ilagan 2, Ilagan 0, Ilagan 0, Ilagan 0, Ilagan 0, Ilagan 0.

AUF (81) — Ilagan 24, Ilagan 20, Ilagan 15, Ilagan 12, Ilagan 8, Ilagan 2, Ilagan 0, Ilagan 0, Ilagan 0, Ilagan 0, Ilagan 0, Ilagan 0.

Quarters: 20-18, 40-38, 60-58, 80-81.

Niños sweep Liga Ilocos leg

DEFENDING CHAMPION M. Lhuillier Kwarta Padala-Cebu Niños swept with an 83-82 thriller over the host Ilocos Sur CS Tigers in the nightcap of the Rizalito Dominguez-Quiro Cenzo in convincing action from the PBAC Liga Filipina Conference V Ilocos Sur leg.

Cebuano Ian Balalayo had 21 points, six rebounds, four assists and four steals to lead the Niños, who leaned on a split by Mark Alcala in the dying seconds to ice the match.

Earlier, Leon Medalla lifted the MP Warriors of Gerlach over the 49-46 defenders over the visiting Laguna Golden Lions. Carmelo Dejesus, Contributor

The scores

FIRST GAME

CEBU (83) — Ilagan 22, Ilagan 18, Ilagan 15, Ilagan 10, Ilagan 8, Ilagan 5, Ilagan 2, Ilagan 0, Ilagan 0, Ilagan 0, Ilagan 0, Ilagan 0.

ILOCOS SUR (82) — Ilagan 24, Ilagan 20, Ilagan 15, Ilagan 12, Ilagan 8, Ilagan 2, Ilagan 0, Ilagan 0, Ilagan 0, Ilagan 0, Ilagan 0, Ilagan 0.

Quarters: 25-12, 49-28, 69-43, 83-82.

SECOND GAME

MP (49) — Ilagan 22, Ilagan 18, Ilagan 15, Ilagan 10, Ilagan 8, Ilagan 5, Ilagan 2, Ilagan 0, Ilagan 0, Ilagan 0, Ilagan 0, Ilagan 0.

LAGUNA (46) — Ilagan 24, Ilagan 20, Ilagan 15, Ilagan 12, Ilagan 8, Ilagan 2, Ilagan 0, Ilagan 0, Ilagan 0, Ilagan 0, Ilagan 0, Ilagan 0.

Quarters: 25-12, 49-28, 69-43, 83-82.

NU eyes V-League semis

By Cedrik P. Tupas

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY goes for a maiden semifinal appearance in the Shakey's V-League as the Bulldogs are impressed five Eastwest 12 side today while Ateneo hopes to keep its unbeaten record at the FIBAS Flying V thrice in San Juan.

The Lady Bulldogs, fresh off a three-set conquest of Saint Benedict U., and the Lady Tamaraws take the floor at 2 p.m. with NU seeking a second win in the quarterfinals that will lead its rivalry in the pick round.

Already assured of a spot in the semifinals after rolling to five straight wins, the Lady Eagles could spoil the Lady Bulacan' bid with a victory in the 4 p.m. match.

But Adamson, which has contended Ateneo several times in the past, including in the first conference finals three years ago, will have guest players Nene Bautista and Michele Laborte back in the fold to power its bid.

Bautista and Laborte, who played in a beach volleyball tournament in Indonesia, were replaced by Michelo and Mayette Catalino in the past two games.

The Lady Tamaraws, with a 9-3 record carried over from the elimination round, are hard-pressed to win their last two matchups to make it to the semifinals.

First Gen tennis tomorrow

THE CHAMPS' top junior players resume their chase for titles in the fourth First Gen Boysngirls Tennis Age Group tennis tournament opening Monday at the Rizal Memorial Tennis Center in Manila.

At stake in the seven-day tournament are 8 titles in the 12-and-under, 14-and-under and 18-and-under categories in both the boys and girls divisions.

Other titles to be disputed are those in the 10-and-under, 14- and 18-under doubles events, also in the boys and girls classes.

The tournament is presented by First Gen Corporation and sponsored by Smart Communications.

It will mark the second straight week that the country's young players are seeing action in a tournament, after the Inquirer Grade 2 event organized by the Junior Tennis Association of the Philippines.

The First Gen championship is a Group 1 silk sanctioned by the Philippine Tennis Association. Tribuller is der alkoholfall. -April Aguino

SPORTSWATCH

Arnado Espino bleafest up

ELITE PROFESSIONAL and amateur hydro boat Pangasinan-ish battle it out tomorrow in the Bonnevers Day race.

Initiated and organized by Pangasinan Gov. Tomas Espino, the bleafest is part of the Philippines' hydroplane activities that started on April 25 and will end on Tuesday.

The race, exclusively for Pangasinenses, will start and finish at the beachfront of Lingayen, featuring several coastal towns with an approximate distance of 100 kilometers.

Cash prizes totaling P 100, 000 will go to the champions and other top finishers.

2 entries top LGBA event

TWO GOLF PROS — both of Grey Narissa and Raymond Dungca — are 1-2 in Jimmy Jacinto — ruled the Luzon Gamecock Breeders Association (LGBA) in Bulacan Sunday recently at AFU Amusement and Sports Center in Malolos.

The event had a total of 135 flights, according to the LGBA president Ricardo Plaza.

Plaza announced yesterday that all members who joined will get a P1,000 rebate on entry fee, as approved by the LGBA board of directors.

Interested parties may call 891-[illegible] for additional details.

UAAP teams lead Petron volleyball

TWO UAAP teams streaked to back-to-back wins to set the pace in the ongoing 2011 Petron Ladies' Beach Volleyball Tournament at the Baywalk residences in the Puerto Princesa.

The University of the East and the Far Eastern of the Philippines Female their previous bill with impressive victories at the start of the new tournament.

UE's veteran Kimberly Dizon and sophomore Katrina Bolan romanced UP-L, lasted by crowd favorites Carmela Lopez and Amanda Isada, 21-10, after crushing Ian Ibeda Collegio Alabang's Jayana Ilagan and Jessica Ilagan, 21-8.

"There was constant communication inside between me and my teammate and that proved to be key," said Dizon.

UP-L's Pauline Gonzalo and rookie Ana Maria del Mundo avenged UP-D's loss as they whipped Puerto Princesa L. 21-18. The Gonzalo and Del Mundo duo also defeated Lorelei Merlina Cu and Jamie Mae Fabito, 21-12.

The top two teams will clinch slots in the nationals in December, also in Puerto Princesa, gathering leg champions and runners-up of the year. Carmela Dejesus, Contributor

Big Dome hosts NFGB's 'Bullang' derby

THE NATIONAL Federation of Gamefowl Breeders (NFGB), comprised of more than 3,000 members all over the country, will hold the Bullang Bullang Nacional 7-8-derby Derby at the Araneta Coliseum on May 3, 5, 12, 14 and 19.

There are a total of 2000 roosters confirmed. The remaining 200 participants will compete in the national elimination May 5 and 5.

A total of 1P million in guaranteed prize money, the winners, according to NFGB president Steve Palanca, Jr.

For details, please visit nfgbonline.com or call 3892[illegible] or text 0[illegible].

Globe Cordillera Challenge slated

A 115-St. of 250 bikers will pedal through mountain roads from Barrio Park in Baguio City to Bontoc province's capital of La Trinidad for this year's edition of the Globe Cordillera Challenge on May 17. Globe hopes the race will elevate the public's awareness about the importance of the Cordillera region. Participants will be flagged off at 6 a.m.

Sunday SPORTS

Grizzlies oust Spurs

Randolph shines as Memphis cements upset

MEMPHIS—The Memphis Grizzlies soaked a stunning upset of top-ranked but. Bobcats in the first round of the NBA playoffs on Friday, beating the Spurs, 90-84, in clinch their series, 4-3, at the FedEx Forum on Friday.

"I'm pleased with where we are, but not satisfied from the perspective that we have an opportunity to do something really special," said Grizzlies coach Lionel Hollins. "We a lot of people know about us coming in, but we certainly have made some noise and turned some heads and given some respect. We also had 11 rebounds while Mike Conley had a double-double with 13 rebounds and 12 points.

"I couldn't have played any better (Archbeard," said McQueen who recovered Randolph. "I keep moving it back in my head and I don't think I could have done different. He hit some really freaking tough shots. I didn't think there was any way they could go in and I'd look up and he'd made them."

Playmaker Tony Parker led the Spurs with 23 points, while swingman Manu Ginobili scored 16.

Reuters

GRIZZLIES forward Zach Randolph dominates the Spurs in the paint.

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Ababa claims S. Island title

AMAMI ABIBA ruled the South Island 11-under tournament with a closing even par 72 for a four-shot romp over New Zealand's Jesse Hamilton at the Shiraz Golf Course in Tenara, New Zealand, Friday.

ABABA

Ababa, who started the final round just one stroke ahead of the Women's Amateur match play tournament Laura Hoskin, played steady golf under tough, wet condition, negating her trip bogey mishap on No. 8 with a birdie on the par-5 11th for a 36-37 card.

The top ICTSI-backed dominator wound up with a 222 to complete a wire-to-wire finish in the NZ Inde tournament.

"She's been working hard on her game and is really determined to improve," said ICTSI team coach Hong Lopez.

Cudala leads TRS charge

CUDALA

TOMOH RACING Alfred's Raymond Cudala led the search of Control Champion of the Future protégés who dominated the Second Karting Super Series event at the Batangas Racing Circuit.

After topping the qualifying and Pre-Final heats, Cudala edged Stephen Taylor and Anthea Tuanco, a third generation karter from the renowned Tuanco racing clan.

Cudala finished the race in 13 minutes and 0.049 seconds. Other TRS protégés occupied the next four spots.

"This only they've shown big potentials as the country's future racing superstars," said TRS president P. Tuanco.

Suba brothers, Miranda rule karting second leg

SIKOTMERO Lord III Suba made it a 1-2 finish for Fenix C Racing while Daniel Miranda of Cabuyao I Indifar Monster piloted the #1 ride combined KOR race in the second leg of the 2011 Petron Karting Super Series at the Batangas racing Circuit in Rosario, Batangas.

The 12-year-old Miranda checked in at 12 minutes and 37.2 seconds to upset favored Suba and team-owned the Suba siblings in the event sponsored by the Automobile Association Philippines.

Another FENIX C Racing bet, Matthew Chan, captured the KOR Novice runner-up trophy over Christopher Tee of Tuanco Racing. *April Aquino, Contributor*

RACING SPORTS

By TOP CHOICE
At San Lazaro LP

Business/Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

Sunday BIZ

Villas similar to those found in the Mediterranean will feature infinity-swimming pool.

Villas add charm to P1-B Moonbay Marina in Subic

By Robert Gonsaga
Inquirer General Luzon

SUBIC BAY FREEPORT—Mediterranean-themed villas are the newest attractions in the multibillion-peso real estate development project of Businessman Fernandez.

Fernandez is on the helm of a real estate development project that he started in 2002 on a former dump in this freeport.

"I was dead certain that I could turn what was once a dump, called Camachile Sub, into what it is today. I was certain I could do it—and I spent every day trying to convince myself," he says.

The Moonbay Marina Villas, which is near the iconic Lighthouse Marina Resort Hotel, is the most recent addition in the hotel and restaurant row that has sprung up in the 130-hectare area that Fernandez has turned into a tourism magnet inside the Subic Bay Freeport.

Events venue

Featuring a 360-square-meter swimming pool, with a poolside huge enough to accommodate a large crowd, the Moonbay Marina Villas has become a venue for business meetings, wedding celebrations, medical conferences and seminars, as well as other events.

"Our clientele here are tourists from [Northern Luzon], families and foreigners who have opted to stay with us for a long time, and dignitaries alike," Fernandez says.

The villas' pool is open to the public [with a P120 fee] and a playground is available for families with children. A restaurant, Cafe Azul, offers Asian and international dishes to guests.

Fernandez says other tasks a stroll at the Bayside Strip are being built. "Once finished, it will be a 2-kilometer strip, at a cost of about P140 million," he says.

The villas stand at the edge of the Bayside Strip, where visitors and residents practice tai-chi in the morning or build yoga sessions before sundown.

Puzzle piece

Guests on their way to the villas passing the strip will get a glimpse of other establishments in Moonbay Marina—like the Bamboo Hotel, finished by the Bay Daddy D.C. Pay Ong; Bobbi Park Hotel, Calliguia's hotel Inn Shanti, Subic's Vista Marina and the Lighthouse Marina.

Fernandez, who sees the villas as a piece in the puzzle of a self-contained commercial area, says Moonbay Marina is a "work in progress."

His have attracted investors, both foreign and domestic, who have poured more than P1 billion into this development project envisioned to build a cosmopolitan environment where everything essential is within reach.

Moonbay Marina has a tertiary hospital, Inspassion.

"[This would] attract medical tourists, or those who go to places like the Philippines where they can get top-level medical attention at very affordable rates. While [foreign patients] are here recuperating, it's going to be like they are just taking a vacation," he says.

Expansion

Moonbay Marina also has an automotive shop and a golf school, with expansion plans set for construction, like additional units in the villas.

Asked what it took to transform his dream into reality, Fernandez says: "Determination, as well as business acumen. Every day you [arrive] in new areas to conquer."

He says architects and urban planners Felipe Bulaong Jr. and Jose Mario Arcilla drew the master plan for the Moonbay Marina project.

"It's all there. There might be a few decisions here and there. But we are faithfully following Palafox's design. Whatever we can, we change it for the better," Fernandez says.

That's one of the reasons investors keep pouring their capital into the project, he says.

"Business is good. Our occupancy levels in the hotels and restaurants are always high. We offer unique service to our clients, and that's why they keep coming back for more," he says.

The song Bumbong ng Pilipinas or Mundo ng Bukas by Jim Paredes spoke of what the citizens of the Philippine nation can offer the world, and of how we will take freedom through unity, determination and diligence. Indeed in 2011, the country once again shows this time through leadership in Business Process Outsourcing. Thanks to breakthroughs in Information and Communications Technology, combined with the efforts of passionate individuals pioneering in the BPO industry has emerged as a global leader.

The top companies of the Philippine Business Process Outsourcing community gathered in the 5th International ICT Awards Philippines Gala Night. The event was held in the Grand Ballroom of the Dusit Thani Hotel in Makati. You could call it the "Oscars" of BPOs, with the black ties and gowns of most of the awardees.

Organized by the Contact Center Association of Commerce of the Philippines and the Business Processing Association of the Philippines (BPAP), the ICT Awards are held to recognize and honor the achievements of the best performing BPO organizations, as well as remarkable individuals who have greatly contributed to the industry. The evening's theme was "Branding the Philippines as the World's BPO Destination of Choice" marking the first time the country gained the lead in global BPO services. The event was co-presented by PLDT myDSL Inspassion.

More than fifty tables were laid out in the ballroom, all of which would be filled before the show began. Cocktails were served for a good while in the early evening, before the event officially opened its doors. After a brief introduction by master of ceremonies Ricky Monge, a sumptuous dinner and dessert combo was served, with light jazz and tense voice playing in the background, performed by the band Daisy. Everyone looked and felt like a star that night.

The Philippines' Finest

Thirty-six companies were nominated along the several criteria for seven different categories. Five judges reviewed and reviewed each company namely: Richard Ribly Chairman of the International ICT Awards-Philippines 2011; Florentino B. Ibrahim, Commissioner of the Commission on Information and Communications Technology (CICT); Oscar B. Salazar, outgoing Chief Executive Officer of MNP; Henry Schumacher, Executive Vice President of the European Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines; and Don Feliciano, Head of the ICT Committee of the American Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines.

Shown in photo from left to right: Jose Fernandez (VP-OF) Moonbay Division of I.C.T. ICT Int'l Awards Chairman Richard Ribly, Oscar Salazar of PLDT Con Fellow of American Chamber of ICT, Cassandra Sales of Web Trends Chairman of Important Philippines, Ismael Clemente of First Contact Solutions Group Wealth Paredes of GP Global Diana Filippa of Teleperformance Asia Pacific, Dante Sebastian, Peace of Transport Philippines, Emmanuel Mendoza of Maxicom, Richard Ribly Bongat, Eric Alberto of PLDT, and Rocio Dee of Thomson Reuters

Eric Alberto and Rocio Dee

Emmanuel Mendoza, Richard Ribly Bongat, Eric Alberto, and Rob McGonigal

Commissioner Allen Ibrahim of CICT and Jose Fernandez, PLDT Head of Ayala Enterprise

Ian Lopez, Don Feliciano, and Raoul Teh

Allen Luke David Rosas, Miguel Santos, and Jose Fernandez

Team Director Celeste Legaspi & Eric Alberto

Jeff Nikolaus and Mark Galvez

Especially high level of performance. To this end we have redoubled efforts to increase the nation's broadband infrastructure. The first meeting of our robust network capacity diversity and redundancy generation direct beneficial impact in our O&O customers' ever-increasing growth and expansion opportunities for the country's business. Pre-

cess Outsourcing industry. PLDT goes well beyond being the Philippines' top ICT carrier of carriers through a resolute direction to invest in the nation's total development. PLDT myDSL Enterprise is the trusted expert ICT partner of choice. Our customers deserve. #LPHA treatment because they are.

THE AWARDEES:

- Corporate Philippines for Best New BPO Location of the Year
- Technical Support Industry Key Shared Services Excellence of the Year Award
- Elizabeth Elizabeth Asia Pacific Hiring Energy | At for the Voice Excellence of the Year Award
- Total Carbon Solutions for Most Innovative Company
- BPAP for Fastest Growing BPO Company of the Year
- Integral Resources Philippines for BPO Employer of the Year
- [illegible] for BPO Company of the Year
- Jamie Sebastian | Ropes, Gorham Philippines Country Manager for ICT Individual Excellence of the Year

Farm school to rise in Batangas leisure farm

By Marisar F Cinco
Inquirer Southern Luzon

STO. TOMAS, Batangas—With the rise of suburban leisure farms south of Luzon, property developer Concrete Aggregates Corp. (CAC) eyes an a distinct advantage—the farm school they are planning up right in the middle of the tranquil and far-flung but fast-growing Tuscan residential property.

CAC general manager Noel Ingcolia says the company's plan to build a farm school "will make the difference" as it is also part of the corporate social responsibility to help improve the lives of the poor farmers at the property's periphery.

The 1.6-hectare Sto. Tomas Leisure Farm, launched last February in Barangay San Roque here, is the pioneer project of the Dingin subdivision, CAC, in farmland development.

CAC, a publicly listed distributor of concrete aggregates, quarry products, first made public the P1.00 million project to ADB.

The company plans to divide the property into 60 individual farm lots, each with a minimum lot size of 1,000 to 1,400 square meters.

Ingcolia says only 25 percent of each lot will be allotted for residential purposes, while the remaining 75 percent devoted to organic vegetable farming.

Apart from the individual farm lots, CAC will begin in 2012 the construction of a one-building farm school that could house about 30 to 50 students.

Ingcolia says the school will admit to scholars the children of poor farmers in Sto. Tomas and its nearby municipalities.

"Agriculture is a very profitable activity except that farmers do not have access to the market. Most often, our farmers fall victim to middle men and vendors," he says.

The students will be taught scientific techniques on organic farming, he says.

The students will also be exposed to dependable suppliers and vendors, which will provide a ready market for the produce, and will expose the advantages of having the town's public market nearby, which is just about 15 minutes away from the leisure farm.

Each of the individual property owners will also be asked to "adopt" a farm school scholar by lending his lot as the student's "laboratory."

The company targets high-network individuals, weekend farmers, and "city dwellers seeking a quiet, farm-like atmosphere," Ingcolia says.

He says the farm's proximity to Metro Manila—only about 20 to 45 minutes by road (Sto. Tomas-Cavite-Metro Manila)—will give them an advantage.

Local government officials welcomed the first leisure farm rising in the town, "to enhance tourism and bring in investors," says Sto. Tomas Mayor Bonnie Poblete.

He says the farm's school component will also help boost the town's economy that remains 75 percent dependent on agriculture.

Intel: Building the next generation of innovators

By Paola G. Manzanilla

IN A time when most companies focus on their image and performance in the short term, or measured by quarterly earnings and stock price movements, the question of sustaining one's business and the new generation is rarely asked.

But for Silicon Valley chipmaker, Intel Corp., the emphasis on sustaining its business model of being one of the world's leading innovators is what sets itself apart. The company says it does not want to perish what the next technological trend is.

Instead, it wishes that it has the capability to be the leader in whatever the next big thing will be.

"One of the key is anyone left behind what we have achieved and continue to do whatever it really innovation," says Hajan Ghosh, Intel Corp. corporate affairs director for Asia Pacific.

He says Intel, the world's leading manufacturer of state-of-the-art computer processors, prides itself in being able to develop new technology that has allowed the rise to the Internet age.

Intel's president Inter helped give the world smarter devices such as mobile phones and personal computers, which have exponentially more powers and no bigger than anything the US government had when Intel first's strong walked on the moon.

"Over the decades, our employees have been interesting in create life-changing technology that continuously change the way people live and work," he says.

Ghosh says Intel has inside the mission of "building the innovators of tomorrow" the core of its corporate social responsibility (CSR) efforts.

Around the world, Ghosh notes that countries that have seen enrollments in math, science and other related courses have also witnessed a decline in the number of registered patents—an indication of slowing innovation.

This was the motivation for the company's Intel Teach program, which aims to get teachers every corner of the world that it can reach.

Under the program, Intel sets up teacher training institutes with partner schools to equip future educators with the skills to be passed on to make students competitive in a "21st century" environment.

"We want to make the classroom a more exciting place to teach and learn. At the end of the day, we are creating students to compete in the 21st century," he says.

Teachers are taught to integrate technology in their methods, Ghosh says, noting that it uses more complicated than just learning how to use programs like Microsoft Word, PowerPoint and Excel.

Aside from using interactive teaching methods, the training centers also teach how to encourage students to solve problems on their own so as to grow up similar to how it is done in real-world offices.

"We want to train students in 21st century skills such as making presentations using technology and working in teams. These are skills that many of us feel that we did not learn in school but would have been relevant in the work place," Ghosh says.

"The learning is more formally ingrained in the mind rather than just learning from the textbook," he says. In all of its programs, Ghosh says Intel emphasizes math, science and engineering as the key areas of students.

In the Philippines, the company says Intel Teach program has set up training centers in 66 of the country's top teaching colleges and universities. The program has trained 130,000 teachers since 1998, helping countless other students in the process.

Around the world, the same program has helped train three million other teachers.

Another company program, which has put up its headquarters in the Philippines, is the Intel Learning project that instead of teachers teaching and directly to children, particularly those that have no access to better quality education.

"Technology has not reached these areas largely because it has not appeared in the scheme of priorities of decision makers," Ghosh says.

The program targets a community where kids put in a formal setting to classes among themselves ways to solve a particular problem they all have.

"Those people have not been given the opportunity and education without to process their ideas accurately to the right people," Ghosh says.

For instance, in India, a group of kids that had to walk several miles to school in suffered every day found a simple solution to their problem: a school bus.

Ghosh says Intel helped the children give a proposal to the appropriate authorities that ran out on the idea. The community now has a single school bus. This helps children save their energy for learning inside the classroom, Ghosh says.

More importantly, he says this shows the world that innovations—be it the world's smallest and fastest computer processor or a simple school bus that gets children to school—will always benefit the lives of many and that is what Intel is about.

The undercover millionaire

"THESE PEOPLE cannot be millionaires! They don't look like millionaires, they don't act like millionaires, they don't eat like millionaires—they don't even have millionaire names. Where are the millionaires who look like millionaires?"—NP of a man depicted in the opening scene of several film generations' millionaires.

The above quotation opens Thomas J. Stanley and William D. Danko's book The Millionaire Next Door in which they write the first scientific study of people have about millionaire lifestyles. Individuals with enormous net worth generally do not flaunt their affluence by driving Ferraris, purchasing mansions or dolling themselves in designer clothes. Instead, they are discreet, preferring to live quiet lives in suburban enclaves in Paris or Milan. Rather, they drive boat-up pickup trucks like Sam Walton or dine at McDonald's like Warren Buffett. Indeed, in the best-cumpanion Slumdog Millionaire, we only see glimpses a key scene of their wealth—humility.

Hidden in plain sight

Humble people rarely adorn the headlines. They self-consciously avoid the spotlight, preferring to make their contributions anonymously. Grace Groner epitomizes the ethic of

John C. Mannell

A LEADER'S WAY

low profile leadership.

A child of the Depression, Grace Groner was orphaned by the age of 12 and raised by friends of her parents.

She attended Lake Forest College in the Chicago suburbs and then worked 42 years as a secretary. Miss Groner resided in a small, one-bedroom home in Lake Forest, and actively volunteered at the First Presbyterian Church.

She was a kind-hearted woman, otherwise unremarkable in the community. She enjoyed attending football games at her alma mater, and she had many friends throughout Lake Forest.

Sizable fortune

At the age of 100, Grace Groner passed away. She had accumulated a fortune worth $7 million to be given to Lake Forest College. The college was unaware of her investments, but years dropped when the school received Miss Groner had invested $180 in 1935 in shares of Abbott Laboratories. Through reinvested dividends and stock splits, the $180 investment grew to $7 million.

Groner gained some fame for her investment success, but she remained humble and modest. She lived in a modest home and drove a 1999 Honda Civic. She never married and had no children. Groner's friends were her family.

Groner's life is a testament to the power of compounding interest. Albert Einstein once called compounding interest the eighth wonder of the world. Groner's investment success is a testament to the power of compounding interest.

Groner's life is also a testament to the power of humility. Groner's humility is a testament to the power of humility. Groner's humility is a testament to the power of humility.

A school for esthetics that teaches business skills too

FOR MANY years, Mary Fe, who lived in informal settlements in Caloocan City, sold pancakes and soft drink bottles in the streets. Not only was her skin damaged by long exposure to the sun, but she was also hopelessly due to staying up late just to earn money.

Through a scholarship, Fe is one of the first graduates of La Mantilla School of Esthetics and Wellness, the Philippine's premiere skin care and aesthetics institute. With her basic knowledge of skin care products, she already has customers lined up for homemade facials in her neighborhood. An added benefit is that her skin is now luminously radiant and her hands are her tools, combined with quality skin care products, she already has customers lined up for homemade facials in her neighborhood. An added benefit is that her skin is now luminously radiant and her hands are her tools, combined with quality skin care products, she already has customers lined up for homemade facials in her neighborhood.

Helping the underprivileged earn a livelihood is the main objective of La Mantilla School's establishing a professional beauty school in the Philippines. An international-ly licensed aesthetician herself, Sylvia also runs Eastern Healthcare Corp. that provides massage, physical and occupational therapies to hospitals in the United States and a Physical Medicine Rehab Center, also in New York. She has helped extensively in fund-raising projects for Gawad Kalinga by producing documentaries in such venues as Carnegie Hall in New York. She had also planned to set up a GK village in honor of her late father, but upon visiting some sites, she realized that the beneficiaries/inhabitants needed a means of sustenance despite having their own homes.

Gracio then met an Englishman who developed Human Stones organic skin care products in GK villages. Seeing the potential of using these products for facials and passing on the skills to livelihood, she tapped her brother Steven Brown from the prestigious Atelier Esthetique to come to the Philippines. Initially, Steven had been willing to become a volunteer/assistant needed a means of sustenance despite having their own homes.

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SHINY ECSTASY'S. A former scavenger, receives her certificate from the organizers of La Mantilla School of Esthetics and Wellness.

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BPI offers online investment services

By Doris C. Dumlao

HORTENCIA

THE PRIVATE BANKING arm of Bank of the Philippine Islands has rolled out the country's first full-service online investment platform, seeking to increase the income its branches get from its managed funds.

BPI asset management and trust group—a leading wealth management unit in the Philippines with close to P600 billion in assets under management—launched on Tuesday night a web-based facility that allows investors to initiate mutual funds and unit investment trust fund (UITF) transactions through the Internet.

Through this platform which can be accessed at www.bpiassetmanagement.com, investors can access portfolio information, explore further investment opportunities, subscribe to additional funds, redeem investments and make regular contributions online.

"Customer behavior and technology are driving the way financial and investment services are conducted and with the pace at which technology is moving, we should always be one step ahead," says BPI senior vice president and chief investment officer Maria Theresa Macuja Javier in the press briefing.

This online investment platform evolves to the same system architecture as BPI's pioneering electronic banking facility and complements an existing online stock trading system which caters to those who prefer to manage their own equities portfolios.

"We've integrated our investment facility online to take advantage of the pervasive Internet technology that will empower our investor clients to transact anywhere at any time at their convenience. This frees up more of their precious time that could be spent on other important business agenda or with their families," Javier says.

Of BPI's close to P600 billion in assets under management, around P100 billion is in the form of either mutual funds or UITFs. The unit has about 70,000 accounts, 90 percent of which are held by individuals or retail investors.

Average fund investments per individual client at BPI unit is still high at P2.93 million but with the bank having reduced the minimum investment required to enter its funds to P50,000 from P50,000 and the rollout of this online investment platform, lower socioeconomic potential starting forward.

BPI president Aurelio Montinola III says: "We're quite excited about this. Not only does this open investment capacity to lower thresholds but it also opens up provincial and overseas clients which comprise a large community. And it's going to be an active community."

The bank's growing confidence base in its traditional services also offers a host of opportunities for cross-selling investment products to that certain segment of clients with excess funds which they wouldn't be satisfied to keep in low-yielding deposits. BPI now has 4.3 million customer base, which it aims to grow to five million by the year's end.

Of BPI's total customer base, overseas Filipino clients number around one million. About $4.6 billion worth of remittances flowed into the country through the BPI channel last year, giving it a 12-percent share of 38-percent, listed on funds settlement.

By using technology to widen its investor base, BPI, the country's most profitable bank, also seeks to increase fee-based earnings that complement its interest earnings from lending.

BPI completed at end-March its purchase of the local fund management businesses of Dutch financial giant ING, an acquisition that made it the biggest player in the local trust industry. The deal also made it the largest employer of trust and investment professionals in the country. The group is now the manager, adviser and administrator of a total of 22 investment funds in the country.

The Rise of Rice

Pinoys eat rice every day.
So it should come as no surprise that a Pinoy is one of the leading scientists to have identified and isolated nine (9) specific breeds of rice at an international institute based in the Philippines.

His discoveries have helped to prevent famine in much of Asia starting in the 1960's up to this time.
Is it possible that this scientific Pinoy used a pencil also made by Filipinos when he was doing his work?
Ang talo ay Pilipino!

T-Pencil
The only pencil made in the Philippines
Ampalaya
Available at all leading bookstores, department stores, supermarkets and stationery shops.
www.ampalaya.com

Building effective work teams

By Joy Tang-Collejo
Contributor

WORKPLACE WISDOM

IN TODAY'S organizations, seldom do we meet employees who individually work on tasks or projects. The trend is to group people into work teams that are sometimes given autonomy in setting goals and putting up internal work systems and processes. Companies are utilizing different types of teams that allow for greater flexibility and innovation. These teams enable the organization to adapt to the fast-changing global environment and increased competition.

Given its prevalence and significant role to organizations, it is important to determine factors that contribute to developing effective teams.

A study was conducted by Ateneo CORD to examine the characteristics and dynamics of effective work teams in Philippine organizations. Six teams recognized as high performing by their respective organizational leaders participated in the study.

Two of these teams belong to corporate organizations. The other four were from an academic institution, a cooperative, a consulting company and a non-government organization.

Effective work teams

What are characteristics of an effective work team?

A team is deemed effective if it meets or even surpasses work goals. Similar with other cultures, effective teams value concrete targets, clearly defined tasks and tangible measures of performance.

Perhaps what sets apart team members in Philippine work organizations is their emphasis on inter-connectedness of tasks and the ability of the team to accomplish goals together—relang-relang.

Results of the study revealed that flexibility is a valued characteristic of work teams. However, aside from being able to adapt to changes in work specifications due to situational demands, their concept of flexibility is quite loosely structured. Instances shared by team members respondents include taking on a teammate responsibility because of the latter's inability to come to work due to an illness or finding ways to make things work even without ample training to satisfy customers.

Effective teams over like who characterized as having a dignified work relationship where there is TRUE, RESPECTFUL and supportive communication despite work related differences and challenges. They show respect by acknowledging the merits of team members' ideas no matter how limited or weak so as not to discourage future contributions.

Trust and open communication is cultivated through honesty and sincerity. This means that not one member of the team is suspected of having any "hidden agenda" manifested for example in one's intention to appropriate a project credit or withholding vital information from other team members.

Developing teams

How do we develop effective work teams?

Selecting the right people for the team

Results of the study emphasized the importance of choosing people with adequate and complementary technical and people skills.

Teams were also found to benefit from members with diverse competencies that are relevant to goal attainment. Materially resourcefulness and practicality were nevertheless significantly important by teams that have limited material resources.

Support from top management

Support may be expressed through systems for recognition and rewards that motivate members and retain good talents. It also means removing help to work teams when ever they are faced with challenging situations. Providing regular performance feedback, especially mid-year and year-end assessments are likewise valued forms of management support.

Developing relationship-based work norms

Providing opportunities to develop relationship-based work norms was likewise seen to help in building effective teams. Knowing each others' quirks and even being acquainted with their team mates families greatly help in promoting smoother work relationships. These helps maintain a happy work environment where there is cooperation, motivation, personal concern and referrals to members' immediate family

and a formidable team spirit. As such, teammates voluntarily give support when needed, look out for one another and inspire each other to persevere despite difficulties. These collective bond were found in such expressions as sealing tension and injoy and in so.

All in all, the results of our study highlight the centrality of social relations in ensuring effectiveness of work teams in Philippine organizations. It is important that team members have diverse yet complementary technical skills that may be fully expressed and utilized if they can work well with their teammates. Given these findings, perhaps top management may not just focus on providing feedback and helping teams achieve their targets but in giving opportunities to develop good working relationships that in itself motivates members to go the extra mile and give more for the team and the organization.

Joy Tang-Collejo is director for research of Ateneo CORD and a faculty member of the Ateneo Department of Psychology. The article is based on a study that she conducted with Josefa Fermelan, Jr. Ateneo Galileo Lim and Rebecca Lapre (students in the PhD in Social Organizational Psychology Program). For feedback about this article please e-mail ateneocord@ateneo.edu.ph or call us at 4266001/ 4266262.)

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Sunday BIZ

Century-old books, journals kept under BPO watch

Text and photos by Maricar Cinco
Inquirer Southern Luzon

CALAMBA CITY—Their job is to keep the materials anti-mod preserve their content for another hundred years or more. And with available technology, this has become easier and doable, according to Virgil Sangalang, director of operations of SPi Global.

SPi Global, a Filipino-owned company established in 1980 and subsidiary of Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. (PLDT), is known for business process outsourcing and as a service provider.

In 2000, SPi Global ventured into the business of book filing and digitization or conversion of content materials and has gone a long way since from manually typing book contents to using the Optical Character Recognition (OCR) technology.

Two of its largest clients are Elsevier Science and Springer, publishers of scientific, technical, and medical (STM) references, which are based in Europe and the United States.

Oldest journal

The books and journals, converted into electronic files, are uploaded to the clients' websites so information becomes readily accessible to thousands of donors, scientists, researchers and scholars worldwide.

To date, SPi Global, at its Laguna facility, has maintained an archive of 256,000 books (80,000,000 pages) and 651,500 journals (200,000,000 pages) published as far back as the 1600s.

The oldest, "Journal of Franklin Institute," was published in 1826. The latest is "Computational Political Economy," published in March 2011.

"We have more books and journals than most libraries, although ours are mostly STM (science, tech)," Sangalang says.

Its archive, a non-floor loading with a floor area of 4,917 square meters, is said to be the largest of its kind worldwide.

Hard copies of the reference materials are shipped from abroad to SPi's facility in Calamba City.

To preserve the books and pages from getting crisp and easily torn due to moisture or termite attacks, each is sealed inside a protective polybag in room temperature of 16-28 degrees Celsius.

Fire safety measures are observed and only authorized personnel are allowed inside the archive room to protect the clients' intellectual rights over the materials.

Restoration

Digital conversion includes scanning the hard copies and materials stored in microfilms or microfiches. The captured images are converted into a PDF format or to an SGML (Standard Generalized Markup Language) or XML (Extensible Markup Language) file, depending on the clients' required format, before the content is uploaded on the Internet.

"We used to manually key in (the content) but now the tools, (the process improved) through technology," Sangalang says.

For materials that are worn, rotten-ish and worn out, the company "cleans up" the image through Photoshop and runs a Spellcheck and proofreading of the final output.

Sangalang says it takes about ten hours and about ten people to work on a journal of 150 pages. So far, the company has about 1,100 full-time employees for this project, delivering more than a million digitized pages a month.

As for the small-scale, old books and journals "do not risk shabby scanners and are reserved forever in an improved version," he says.

Mail digitization

In 2010, SPi Global ventured into another project, this time with Europe's largest postal and logistics company DHL. The partnership gave birth to DST Global, with operations also based at SPi Global's facility in Laguna.

"In Netherlands, they have document-intensive (mail) systems, but since the information (postal addresses and area codes) are handwritten, the machines could not read them all," Sangalang explains.

For this case, he says, the digital image of the postal mail, again captured through the DOL, is electronically sent to SPi's facility.

Employees, called video coders, manually decipher and type-in the information from the mail and send them back electronically to DST Short's system for routing.

"That's a lot for DST that has to sort about six million mails a day," Sangalang says.

Source of pride

To be trusted with the world's medical and scientific content, references and information is a tough job but which also "makes SPi feel proud," he says.

This month, the company is improving its facility by putting up another building as an archive for 8,500 books and journals.

Sangalang believes that the company's performance "is a proof of the Filipinos' ability to readily adapt to the demands of our clients—whatever industry they come from."

A WORKER passes through rows of manuscripts, each sealed in protective plastic.

ABOVE, a technician handles voluminous texts prior to digitization. Below, call center agents go about their daily routine.

SPi Global has been converting old manuscripts and periodicals into electronic files for the benefit of researchers and scholars worldwide.

LABOR DAY

109TH LABOR DAY ANNIVERSARY

Job and livelihood fairs all over the country

As the country gears up for the 109th anniversary celebrations of Labor Day, the Labor Department has prepared various activities, including jobs and livelihood fairs, marches, rallies and meetings by some sectors in the labor movement to mark the occasion.

"The main Labor Day Jobs and Livelihood fair will be held in Metro Manila on May 1, but there will be similar fairs that will provide opportunities to graduates and jobseekers on all parts of the country," Labor and Employment Secretary Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz said.

For the Oslo and its partners, the Job and Livelihood fair will be a central event and will highlight services for workers' benefits, such as job opportunities, livelihood and skills training and counseling, product display, and sales and welfare services for migrant workers.

The Metro Manila Job and Livelihood Fair will be held in the Lagoon Area of the Rizal Park between Quirino Grandstand and Burnham Greenery on May 1.

"Labor Day is being celebrated under theme, 'Mas mural na Dangal ng Kasambahan para sa Pantay na Labak,' mirroring the Aquino Administration's commitment to just and right social and corporate governance to nurture equal entities and push back poverty," said Baldoz.

The regional jobs and livelihood fair will be at the SM Bagnio and Bagnio Convention Center in the Cordillera Administrative Region; SM Baguio, Pangasinan in Region I (Ilocos); Premiere L. Dy Coliseum, Canayan, Isabela in Region 2 (Cagayan Valley); SM San Fernando, Pampanga and SM Balintag, Balanga in Region 3 (Central Luzon); SM Sta. Rosa, Laguna and SM Bicutan, Cavite in Region 4A (Calabarzon); Divine World College, Calapan City in Region 4B (Mimaropa); SM Naga City in Region 5 (Bicol); SM Iloilo and SM Bacolod in Region 6 (Western Visayas); SM Cebu, Cebu International Convention Center, abadiona Sports Complex City, Cebu City and Mactan Sports Complex, Lumagang City in Region 7 (Metro Cebu and Central Visayas); Tacloban City Convention Center in Region 8 (Eastern Visayas); Western Mindanao State University Gymnasium, Zamboanga City and Gaisano Capital, Pagadian City, in Region 9 (Zamboanga Peninsula); SM Cagayan de Oro in Region 10 (Northern Mindanao); and SM Davao, Gaisano Mall Davao in Region 11 (Davao Region); SCC Mall in General Santos, Plaza Pavilion in Kidapawan City and the South Seas Mall, at Don R. Alfonso St., Gumbato City in Region 12 (Central Mindanao); and Dole regional office in Caraga.

To facilitate a smoother and more efficient processing of the jobseekers' search, Baldoz advised the thousands of hopefuls who are expected to flock the fairs to bring with them their bio-data, resumes, and authenticated NSO birth certificates.

While the Labor Department is making efforts toward a more efficient job-skills matching process, such as pre-registering jobseekers, it is advisable that walk-in applicants bring their resumes in the nationwide job fairs. This will make their job search faster and easier," she said.

Baldoz said that during the May 1 Job and Livelihood Fairs, the Labor Department in cooperation with government agencies such as the National Bureau of Investigation, Social Security System, PhilHealth and Big, Big is serving up one-stop shops to provide documentary issuance services to workers, particularly in those fairs to be held in large cities.

Over 1,000 employers and licensed recruitment agencies have committed to bring 100,000 job opportunities in the Labor Day Job and Livelihood fairs scheduled in 16 regions nationwide.

Aside from job opportunities, the Dole and its licensees and attached agencies will also provide employment facilitation, employment information, employment enhancement and training, self-employment and welfare services, and other assistance to workers and jobseekers during the jobs and livelihood fairs.

For the 2011 Labor Day Celebration, the Dole in the National Capital Region has partnered with Asia Brewery Globe Telecom, Philippine Seven, Banco de Oro, Centrex, and 4Ms Education, while in the regions, the regional offices have tied up with local partners such as ABS-CBN.

LABOR and Employment Secretary Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz delivers her speech during the 1st National Summit on Labor and Employment with the theme 'Inclusive Growth through Decent and Productive Work' held recently at the SMX Convention Center, Pasay City.

Why celebrate Labor Day

LABOR DAY is an annual holiday celebrated all over the world that resulted from the labor union movement. It was established to celebrate the economic and social achievements of workers.

In the Philippines, Labor Day has its origin in 1903, the first labor federation in the country Union Obrera Democratica was established at Teatro Variedades in Santa Ana, Manila, with Isabelo de los Reyes as president and Hermenegildo Cruz as secretary.

The organization rallied each Labor Day the following year 1904, when the Philippines was still under US rule. That year, more than a hundred thousand workers organized by the Union Obrera Democratica de Filipinas (UODF) marched in Manila, calling on the first 8-hour a day and better working conditions.

The American colonial government was alarmed. The Philippine Constabulary composed of Americans and Filipinos, ended the promising wave of UODF and arrested its president, Dominador Gomez, for illegal assembly and sedition.

Then in 1908, the first day of May was declared as a national holiday through a bill passed by the Philippine Assembly officially calling it Labor Day.

On May 1, 1919, Congress Obrero de Filipinas was organized. Lucino Hernandez, Cruz, it fought for an eight-hour working day, abolition of child labor, job labor standards for women, and liability of capitalists.

Since then, Labor Day in the Philippines has been commemorated in this country.

Most countries celebrate Labor Day on May 1. The event is also popularly known as May Day and International Workers' Day.

In Europe the day has even significance as not a festival or a holiday but is mostly more important than the Labor Day movement. The holiday has become internationalized and several countries hold multi-day celebrations including parades, shows and other patriotic and labor-oriented events. However, in Northern Europe, Walpurgis Night is celebrated on the preceding night and the holiday merges with the Labor Day in some countries.

May 1 is a national holiday in Albania, Argentina, Andorra, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, China, Croatia, Cuba, Dacia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Hong Kong, Hungary, Iceland, India, Italy, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Lithuania, Lebanon, Macedonia, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Moscow, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Nigeria, North Korea, Norway, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, the Philippines, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Korea, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Serbia, Sweden, Syria, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, Uruguay, Venezuela, Vietnam, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

In Greece, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, May 2 is also a national holiday.

In Poland, since May 1 is a national holiday, it was renamed from Labor Day to simply "State Holiday" in 1950.

How to work more than one full-time job

By Kenneth M. dela Rosario

THERE'S A running joke that says work often is nowhere and dinners people's social lives.

Indeed, many people can barely manage to keep one job, which seems like the biggest part of the balanced life pie. For those are those who can work two or more jobs seamlessly without any problems.

There are many reasons why people take on two or more full time jobs (as opposed to just getting a "sideline" or a "moonlight project" on the side). It may be because it's the only way they'll be able to meet financial obligations or it may be because they simply feel they have enough spare time at hand.

A woman called "Dawn" posted on the website of ilikeun.com her experience working four jobs (yes, you read that right). She said: "You're gonna think I'm nuts but I work 4 jobs. Ghostwriter/

Whether or not that testimonial holds credibility, the betterdice remains the same: It is never easy to work more than one full time job.

But there are ways to make the journey more manageable. Here are some practical tips from choose.com plus our very own:

1. Schedule your time carefully

Work will take up the majority of your time, but if you can schedule the hours appropriately you can still manage to set aside a few hours a week for education and family time. While giving minimal rest to both jobs is essential, one cannot disregard personal time to recharge.

2. Get a job on your days off

If you routinely have the weekend off, schedule the second job for one of those days. If you work a double shift you can get in 16 to 16 hours in one day. Reserve the second day for family and personal needs. This is necessary to make sure there would be no conflict in fulfilling your responsibilities in both jobs.

3. Choose a mechanical job

If you've job requires a lot of mental processing, get a second job that doesn't require the same amount. If, for example, you're a writer by profession (which involves a lot of thinking), consider selling life insurance or real estate (which is more mechanical in nature).

4. Choose a job within the same area

It might not be practical to get a job very heavy away from each other. It would waste a lot of your time, which you could have used for leisure activities. Other people don't consider time off, but it's important to remember that set best this break time, you might find yourself burnt out by on, which is not good, by any means.

5. Choose jobs with no take-home work

If you can leave your work behind when you walk out the door, you will have more time to be at her at home. Be cautious of jobs that require extensive preparation instead work. The idea is to find a job that you love and that you find relaxing, or one that energizes you. If you enjoy the work you do, it will be less taxing on you.

6. Set a firm priority

Sooner or later, you might find yourself in one. But once which job you'll respond to first. At one point, something has to give. After all, you can't be in two places at one time. Ask yourself which one is the more important job for you, if it comes to that.

7. Consider a work-at-home job

Freelance work can often be done at your convenience. You may find it enjoyable to spend a few hours doing work you enjoy once the kids are in bed. There are people who may and will earn over at-shop. Others accept editing jobs or even website designing.

Basic benefits employees need to know

JUST BECAUSE you are paid well doesn't mean that you won't care for other basic benefits due to you. It's important that as an employee, you inquire and avail yourself of these benefits.

Sometimes, when job hunting, people would opt for a company that has better benefits than the others even if the salary is not as much as other companies.

The Philippine Labor Code lists basic benefits that should be given to employees.

There an employee renders one year of service, he or she is already entitled to five days of leave according to article 95 of the Labor Code (Service Incentive Leaves). Companies have the option to increase the number of days.

Two months before December (or the holiday season), some companies are already giving their employees their 13th month pay which is equivalent to one month salary (Presidential Decree No. 851) and should be tax free. It should be given to the employees not later than Dec. 24 but in some instances, the 13th month pay is sometimes delayed due to lack of funds. Still, employees can demand for this because it is clearly stated in the law.

The Social Security Act of 1997 was created with the aim of giving employees or Social Security System members some protection should they need assistance for sickness, disability, hospitalization, death, maternity, and others. Employees can always inquire at HR offices and females if their contributions deducted from their salary are remitted. This will also help prevent you should you need the funds for emergency cases. The monthly employee contribution depends on the employee's monthly salary.

Another important benefit that employees should make sure they have is the contribution to the National Health Insurance Program (NHIP) or the Philippine Health Insurance Corp (Philhealth). This contribution is of great help when an employee or the beneficiaries (enrolled in Philhealth) are hospitalized. A significant amount of discount can be availed.

Should the employee want to purchase a house through a government financing institution, there is the Home Development and Mutual Fund (HDMF) contribution. The employee is required to contribute not less than P100 a month to the employee's name.

A regular employee is required to work for eight hours a day or 48 hours a week with two days off or depending on the nature of the business of the employer. Within the eight hours, employees should have short meal and full hour breaks.

There are other benefits provided by companies outside of what are stated in the Labor Code. It may also help to skim through the Labor Code or if problem arises, there is something employees can fall back on.

Highlights of the January 2011 Labor Force Survey

Overview

The labor market situation in January 2011 was essentially unchanged from last year. Modest growth rates occurred in the agricultural, industry and services sectors (1.3%), and self-employment (1.4%) while indicators employment rate share (-1.1%). This was accompanied by the decline in full-time employment (-2.7%) and wage and salary employment (-1.3%). On a positive note, underemployment rate eased slightly from 19.7% to 19.4% over the period. Meanwhile, unemployment rate at 7.4% was almost unchanged or not statistically different from last year's figure of 7.3%, while labor force participation rate (LFPR) fell from 64.3% to 63.7%.

The slowdown in employment growth in his January is largely attributed to "base effect" as the country registered a robust expansion in employment a year ago of the same period (+ 1.729 million - the highest in the 2000 Census-based LFS characteristics on the back of the simultaneous holding of the national and local elections. Similar record expansion also occurred in the latter form (+1.712 million). Full-time employment (-1.0.8 million) and wage and salary employment (-1.2.171 million) (in January 2010). It should be noted that employment (as well as labor force) in the 2000 Census-based LFS data are the behaved a "boom and bust" cycle where large or unusual expansion in a particular survey round is followed by a decline in the same survey round in the same period of the following year or vice versa. This pattern was also observed in 2007 (January and April), 2008 (July) and 2009 (April).

Labor force

Labor force participation rate (LFPR) in January 2011 fell to 63.7% from 64.3% a year earlier - as fewer persons (-385,000) joined or replaced the labor market compared with the same period last year (+ 1.712 million). The decline was most pronounced among women (51.7% to 49.1%) and persons between the age groups 45-54 (80.1% to 78.3%) and 60 years old and over (38.8% to 37.3%). (Table 4c)

This notwithstanding, the number of persons in the labor force was slightly (but 36.638 million to 39.221 million over the period - about 583,000. 1.324 million increase in household population 15 years old and over which also stood at 61.532 million.

Employment

Employment growth slowed down considerably to just 0.8% (+ 265,000) in January 2011 from the robust 3.1% (+ 1.729 million) registered a year ago of the same period. It can be recalled that employment last year grew at its fastest pace since 2002 at the back of the synchronized national and local elections that boosted the economy much by labor market.

The slowdown followed the "boom and bust" pattern first characterized the movement of employment series, i.e., a sharp expansion is often followed by small increase or decrease in the subsequent year of the same period. This pattern can be observed in 2007 (January and April), 2008 (July) and 2009 (April).

- Services sector employment growth managed to remain positive though at a modest 1.3% (+100,000). Growth was mixed across sub-sectors with gains in wholesale and retail trade (+306,000); real estate, renting and business activities (+75,000); transport, storage and communications (+70,000); education (+56,000); and financial intermediation (+64,000). These offset losses in private households self-employed persons (-101,000); other community, social and personal service activities (-44,000); hotels and restaurants (-41,000); public administration (-37,000); and health and social work (-5,000).

- On the other hand, industry employment fell by 2.1% (-58,000) following strong recovery last year (+9.8% or +466,000). With the exception of construction which posted an increase (+ 93,000), losses occurred in manufacturing (-96,000); electricity, gas and water (-46,000); and mining and quarrying (-9,000).

- Meanwhile, employment in agriculture, hunting and forestry sector managed to post a slight recovery (+ 0.9% or +149,000) from the decline a year ago (-606,000 or -9.0%) due to the effect of the El Nino weather phenomenon. Meanwhile, employment in the fishery sector dipped by 2.3% (-82,000).

- Strong "base effect" was also observed for full-time employment and wage and salary employment. Both indicators recorded substantial gains last year (+3,048,000 and +2,171 million, respectively) but suffered losses this year (-816,000 and -294,000, respectively).

- Meanwhile, employment increase occurred for the following categories of workers: persons in part-time employment (7.0% or +400,000); self-employed without paid employee (+462,000); and unpaid family workers (+306,000).

- Over the period, the share of persons in reduced hour employment to total employment was slightly lower (8.0% or 43.7%). This figure is still as par with the 10% average annual rate.

- Employment losses were recorded in Region V (-125,000), Region III (-24,000) and ARMM (-111,000). The rest of the regions posted gains or employment with the highest in Region IV-A (+412,000), Region II (+70,000) and Region IV-B (+61,000).

Underemployment

- On a positive note, the number of employed persons who wanted or expressed the desire for additional work or work (till slightly by 53,000 to 7.304 million. This figure corresponds to 19.4% of total employed, down from 19.7% a year before.

- Meanwhile, persons who worked less than 40 hours during the reference week and wanting additional hours of work (time-related underemployment) increased over the period by 271,000 to 4.441 million.

Unemployment

The January 2011 unemployment rate at 7.4% was up marginally by 0.1 percentage point from last year, least that this figure is not statistically different from the rate recorded in January 2010 at 7.3%. In absolute terms, the total number of unemployed persons rose by 53,000 to 2.919 million.

- Nearly half (48.4% or 1.427 million) of the total unemployed workforce were young workers (aged 15 to 24 years old). Youth unemployment rate at 17.2% was more than twice the national average. This rate was lower by one but year.

- Most three in every five unemployed were men (1.829 million or 62.7%). Compared with last year, unemployment rate of men was drastic by 0.2 percentage points to 7.0% while the rate for women was up by 0.7% percentage point to 7.7%.

- The majority (47.4% or 1.374 million) were high school graduates or undergraduates. Equally large were college undergraduates and graduates (30.1% or 1.441 million).

- On regions, posted unemployment rates higher than the national rate: NCR (12.0%), Region I (11.6%), Region III (7.8%), Region IV-A (6.6%), Region VII (8.2%), and Caraga (7.5%).

- Compared with last year notable increases in unemployment rates were recorded in Region 11 (+2.1 percentage points), Region V (+1.6 percentage points) and NCR (+1.2 percentage points) while notable reductions occurred in Region III (-1.1 percentage points), Region IV-A (-1.3 percentage points) and Region VII (-2.0 percentage points).

Table 1 – KEY EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS PHILIPPINES: January 2010-2011
(In thousands except rates)

Indicator	Jan. 2011*	Jan. 2010	Year-on-Year Change
Household Population 15 Years Old and Over	61,532	60,208	1,324
Labor Force	39,221	38,638	583
- Employed Persons	36,293	36,001	292
- Unemployed Persons	2,919	2,827	92
Underemployed Persons	7,094	7,107	-53
- Visible underemployed	4,441	4,170	271
Not in the Labor Force	22,321	21,380	941
LFPR (%)	63.7	64.3	
Unemployment Rate (%)	7.4	7.3	
Underemployment Rate (%)	19.4	19.7	
- Visible Underemployment Rate (%)	12.2	11.6	
Mean Hours of Work	41.6	42.3	

*p Preliminary.
Source of data: National Statistics Office, Labor Force Survey

Year	Employment ('000)	Increment ('000)	Year-On-Year Growth Rate (%)
2007			
January	33,848	1,211	3.7
April	33,504	1,005	3.1
July	33,118	943	2.9
October	33,872	786	2.4
2008			
January	33,993	146	0.4
April	33,358	-146	-0.4
July	34,733	1,615	4.8
October	34,233	361	1.1
2009			
January	34,532	539	1.6
April	36,997	1,639	4.6
July	35,508	775	2.2
October	35,478	945	2.7
2010			
January	36,801	1,730	4.9
April	36,447	450	1.2
July	36,137	629	1.7
October	36,489	1,011	2.8
2011			
January	36,293	793	0.8

Source: Bureau of Labor and Employment Statistics

GLOBE AT DOLE: KABALIKAT NG MANGGAGAWANG PILIPINO SAAN MAN SA MUNDO.

Anumang trabaho, dito man o abroad, narito ang Globe at DOLE upang tulungan ang bawat Pilipino.

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Yamba kings

Celebrating the Filipino Workforce

There is nothing in the world like the Filipino worker. Sure we may joke about Filipino time and the archetype of some people getting caught napping on the job and of workers producing shoddy products. Items and stories that make us say 'only in the Philippines.' But in more and more cases, these things still do crop up 'in the Philippines' but only in jokes and coffee break discussions.

Today, the Filipino worker is a model citizen of the world and the primary engine of growth for our country. There is not a place in the world where one can't find a Filipino worker. Skilled workers in the Middle East? Of course. Teachers in North America? Yes. Professionals in Scandinavia? Plenty. Engineers in Africa? Majority have stayed on despite the uncertainty. Volunteer teachers, nurses and doctors in the most remote places in Mindanao? Still there. Still dedicating their lives to improving the lives of fellow Filipinos. And you would have to try really hard to find a company or an employer anywhere in the world who would give negative ratings to their Filipino workforce. In areas as perseverance, determination to succeed, positive work attitude and work ethic, going beyond the call of duty, initiative, willingness to learn and help others, honesty and ease of all, punctuality and loyalty we rise above all others. Stories abound of the ingenuity of Filipino workers, of a great never-say-die spirit, of the heart and the will to do good.

This is the spirit of the Filipino worker the country honors this May 1. This is the same spirit that has driven Cobra Energy Drink to partner with the Departments of Labor and Employment to repeat the highly successful Cobra DoLE Jobs Live last year.

According to Jef Mendoza, Brand Manager of Cobra Energy Drink: "This year, Cobra has declared the whole month of May as the Buwan ng Tunay na Lakas as a way of recognizing the backbone of our economy and national progress – the Filipino workforce. And the highlight of this Buwan ng Tunay na Lakas is Cobra Energy Drink is the Job and Livelihood Fair in partnership with the Department of Labor and Employment."

"Last year, the Cobra DoLE Jobs Live attracted more than 60,000 and generated 5,000 jobs on the spot. Seminars and workshops also added skills to all participants. This year we expect more as we're given this Job and Livelihood Fair a real 'tunay na lakas' treatment. With more participating companies, more activities, more things to learn, more things to do to increase one's skills and improve oneself," adds Abe Cipriano, Marketing Manager of Asia Brewery Inc.'s Non-Alcoholic Beverages.

The Cobra DoLE Job and Livelihood Fair is the biggest single job fair of the Department of Labor and Employment. It is a highlight project that focuses on bringing on the best Filipinos and matching him or her with the best jobs possible.

Key features of the Cobra-DoLE Job and Livelihood Fair are: Job fair of over 150 local employers and 50 overseas private employment agencies, livelihood counseling, financial literacy advice, and skills demonstration, and other free services.

Both parties are excited over the prospect of helping Filipinos find jobs and improve their skills. "We've been looking forward to this event for close to a year now. This is our way – modest though it may be – of helping the Filipino workforce because there really is no replacement to the Filipino worker, skilled or unskilled, professionals to high class or those toiling in the field. Their perseverance and determination to succeed pushes us further, inspires us as Cobra. The faster we get there going, the faster we'll grow as a country."

DOLE Secretary Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz says the 2011 Job and Livelihood Fair, which takes place simultaneously all over the country on May 1, affirms the availability of jobs in the local market.

"There are plenty of local jobs and there are job fairs, but what differentiates our Labor Day Job and Livelihood Fair is the strategy we employ—and that's public-private partnership — to encourage employers and partners, like Cobra, to go out of their way and help seek the awareness of jobseekers that jobs are, indeed, available," she said.

"Ang hallmark ang ng Pinoy or may bukas na oportunidad. By matching the applicant with the right qualifications and skills with the right job, we maximize every opportunity and, more importantly, we get the best out of each applicant. Hindi maaaksaya ang galing ng mangagawang Pinoy," she added.

The Cobra-DoLE Job and Livelihood fair is open to all who are looking not just for a job but for better opportunities as well as those looking to learn a new or added skill to help them perform better.

See the best of the Filipino at the Cobra DoLE Job and Livelihood Fair at Rizal Park (Luneta Area) between Roxas Boulevard and Quirino Avenue on May 1, 2011 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

Meanwhile Cobra Energy Drink continues to offer quality energy drinks that give power to every Filipino's natural drive to excel and strive for whatever is better. Cobra Energy Drink in the original flavor is number one all over the country and is now regarded by many as an iconic brand because of its – to succeed, to persevere. To dedication to supporting Filipino workers succeed. Cobra Energy Drink is also available in PET bottles and in a new Citrus Blast variant that offers a new refreshing flavor with the same great Cobra power. Of course, Cobra Energy Drink is also recognized for creating some of the most powerful, memorable and impactful advertising in recent Philippine advertising history. Campaigns that have become part of contemporary pop culture, it's line of 'pag meron ka nito, wala kang talo' and tunay na lakas have become generic 'battle cries' and 'inspirational calls' to do more.

Cobra will remain committed to the ideals of every hard working Filipino – overcome, not simply to be on top but to be on top in order to help improve his life and his family.

Sunday LIFESTYLE

IN THIS ISSUE

■ **Best summer adventure** spots—and best foodie havens /12

COLLEGE ENTRANCE TEST REVIEW

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Face-Off Cebu crowd didn't miss out on Kate-William wedding

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SAMANTHA Cameron, new bride, in Berkeley with husband Prime Minister David Cameron

SISTER'S sister and maid of honor Pippa Middleton in Sarah Burton

MONARCH'S Prince of Wales and his fiancée Duchess Camilla

PRESIDENT Queen Princess Victoria and husband Prince Daniel

SOCIALITE Tara Palmer-Tomkinson (left)

DAVID Beckham in Ralph Lauren and with Victoria in navy dress and a Philip Tre hat

Kate's wedding dress
–Grace Kelly-inspired, Sarah Burton-designed

By Charles V. Hurst

ROYAL WATCHERS of speculation and feverish anticipation reached its climax on Friday when the world finally caught a glimpse of Kate Middleton's wedding dress that, observers said, was reminiscent of Grace Kelly's gown.

Sarah Burton, creative director at Alexander McQueen, designed the bridal look, with long, Medieval-style sleeves and a high, arched lace bodice. The white satin of ivory and white satin gazar. Burton, who took over the avant-garde fashion house following its namesake designer's death last year, was a front-runner among those rumored to make the wedding dress.

Hamish Bowles, European editor at large for Vogue magazine and a guest commentator on CNN, described the dress as "sublime," worthy of the Westminster Abbey and royal day of the occasion. "I have wished the dress was a royal tribute" to McQueen, the late British designer whose lifework, incidentally, will be honored in the Metropolitan Costume Institute Gala in New York this month.

"Everything was exquisitely done," Bowles said.

Popular bridal designer Vera Wang also told CNN, "It's very much what I expected, on so fashion-forward and won't age in photographs."

Modest train

The lace bodice called to mind another princess bride, Grace Kelly, who wed Monaco's Prince Rainier in 1956. In common with Kelly's dresses, close-necked dress, however, Middleton's showed less dewdrop with a V neckline.

Unlike Prince William's mother Diana's extravagant wedding dress, his bride's train was also modest by comparison, at only nine feet long. The dress featured a studded waist and pearled hips, which, said the statement, drew on the "feminine tradition of corsetry and is a hallmark of Alexander McQueen's designs," and emphasized the bride's svelte physique.

The new Duchess of Cambridge wore a tiara-bodice made by Cartier, on loan from Queen Elizabeth. According to accounts, the tiara was once a gift of George II to his wife and was handed down to their daughter, the current monarch.

The bride, who wore her hair down, also sported a pair of drop diamond earrings, a gift from her parents. Her wedding ring was made by the Maylan jeweler Wartski from

"It's very modern but impressive," said Hamish Bowles and won't age in photographs." Vera Wang, a fan of Kate Middleton's wedding dress, designed by Sarah Burton, the British creative director of Alexander McQueen. Prince of Wales wore a crimson military uniform.

THE COMMONER, TURNED PRINCESS wears a Cartier tiara-bodice, on loan from Queen Elizabeth.

Hamish Bowles called it 'sublime'; Vera Wang described the overall look as 'elegant and dignified'

following royal family tradition, a piece of White gold given to the couple by the Queen after their engagement. On her right ring finger, she wore her sapphire and diamond engagement, which once belonged to her groom's late mother.

The groom wore a crimson military uniform.

Placing was particularly taken by the bridal veil, which she said beautifully framed the bride's face. She praised its "elaborate," and described the overall look as "elegant and dignified."

Speaking to CNN before the ceremony, Wang said she also hoped the dress would honor Alexander McQueen, whom she described as a "brilliant boxer" for its drama and technique.

Burton, 31, was McQueen's right hand, and has thrust out critically acclaimed collections since the task over the label, successfully taking designer flair with her romantic, sophisticated edge. McQueen committed suicide in February last year.

The Central Saint Martins-educated Burton's work for the royal wedding crowns her reputation and stature in the fashion industry, though the economic implications of it, gripped Wang, could be "a real opportunity for one." The American is the go-to designer of many a celebrity bride.

While the royal wedding itself is hoped to re-energize the economy, the impact of the bridal dress is also expected to boost the British fashion industry. The dress is also expected to influence bridal trends in the coming years.

Pit designers react

Some local fashion watchers, however, were left wanting after watching the royal wedding. A source more expected the push

LIZ Hurley-John

CAROLE Middleton, the bride's mother, in Catherine Walker

KING Juan Carlos, Queen Sofia, Crown Prince Felipe and Princess Letizia

PRINCE Charles and Camilla Parker Bowles, Duchess of Windsor, in Prince Valentino

PRINCESS Ingeborg Welmoet Wessie and and Princess Beatrix in Valentino. Both are wearing Philip Treacy hats

LEFT: Frederick and Lady Sophie Windsor in Giorgio Armani Privé

Ivi and high-street loving Middleton to push the envelope, especially considering her choice of dress.

"It fits her well...It reflects her personality," designer Jory Sorensen said. "It was, however, a very safe choice. I read that [Middleton] worked closely with Sarah Burton, and I don't know how [the designer] suppressed her edginess and ambition. I had expected it to be simple like with an ice-skating material, and yet I don't see that. Sarah Burton is a young designer and very current. I just feel that she threw Jacket Jane Norma."

Another designer, Jojo Llanes, agreed. "I was expecting a younger design. I was kind of surprised. It's very classic and very safe. She's young and I think she [could] be more."

Llanes added he had expected the dress to make a statement, perhaps just as much as the 1981 Jean Muir of Diana's wedding dress.

Nonetheless, the royal wedding was a triumph for British designers, with many of the gowns signing the local couture.

Pippa Middleton, the bride's sister, wore a simple, close fitting cap-sleeved ivory dress with a cowl neckline, also by Burton. The bride's mother, Carole, opted for a sleek, tailored sky blue dress with a matching coat by the house of Catherine Walker. The designer, who died last year, was also a Diana favorite.

Camilla Parker Bowles, the groom's stepmother, wore the dress Valentino. The designer, who made the Duchess of Cornwall's 2005 wedding dress, created blackberry-in-ivory gown and matching coat with a matching hat. The Duchess also wore Jimmy Choos and a Philip Treacy hat.

Hillary

The Irish millinery was the choice of many royal guests, including pregnant pop star Sinéad O'Connor, who wore a midnight blue cap by Treacy to go with her maternity smock of the same shade. The dress is from Rodnik's own label. She arrived with her first husband Jamie Hilton and left with her second husband Nick, who wore Ralph Lauren tails and had a top hat, though he wasn't photographed wearing it on his head.

Samantha Cameron, the British prime minister's wife, went for a teal Burberry dress, her preferred tradition and arrived wore hat.

One of the young royals, Princess Eugenie, wore Vivienne Westwood and a Philip Treacy hat. Her sister, Beatrice, went for Valentino.

On the eve of the wedding, the Italian designers Giorgio Armani and Alberta Ferretti broke their silence and released separate statements of long gowns they were donning for the wedding.

Chelsey Davy, Prince Harry's on-off girlfriend, wore a satin asymmetric bandeau dress by Temperley, slightly different from the sketch the designer released. Perhaps in keeping with etiquette, the young monarch's dress sported long sleeves, versus the cap sleeves in the sketch.

Davy will also wear a Temperley design for the dinner dance at Buckingham Palace. It will be a blue satin sequin one-shoulder gown, reported Women's Wear Daily.

Around dozen of the closest of Lady Percival's friends, Princess Beatrice of Greece and Denmark and Princess Mathilde of Belgium.

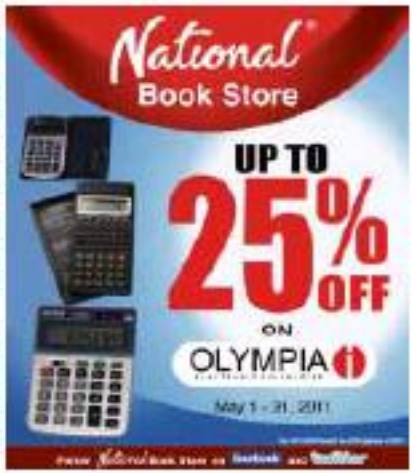
Face-Off Cebu crowd . . .

Pinoyexpo Co

watch before the fashion show.

There were also TV series hashtags for the models, designers and hosts names who were from among Cebu's stylish ones.

The Face Off Cebu is the opposite of the fashion series this year presented by Sam



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IN THIS ISSUE
■ Growing up with the music of Andrew Lloyd Webber /11

Sunday LIFESTYLE

Beautiful people worth beautiful photographs

Rupert Jacinto's latest tome includes a beautiful spread of my youngest daughter Athena and I. That one was not taken with a Nokia E7

TESSA!
Tessa Prieto-Valdes

If A PICTURE is worth a thousand words, then how many gazillions of words are produced everyday? With cameras in phones, everyone is taking pictures.

I just got a new Nokia N8 and its 12-megapixel camera (only inspires serious pixel envy in me) has a touch-screen that allows me to upload the beautiful pictures I take immediately to facebook and Twitter.

I had barely begun to appreciate my N8 when I got a glimpse of the E7. The latter is Nokia's latest version of its famous "communicator." It's like a laptop-computer-slash-cell phone. Technology is moving so fast, I need to sit back and just enjoy my phone pix.

I was amazed how phone pics have created ripples. At the recent exhibit of Dutch brothers Mrk and Rian Van Hagen, part of the photos collection was taken using a Nokia E7.

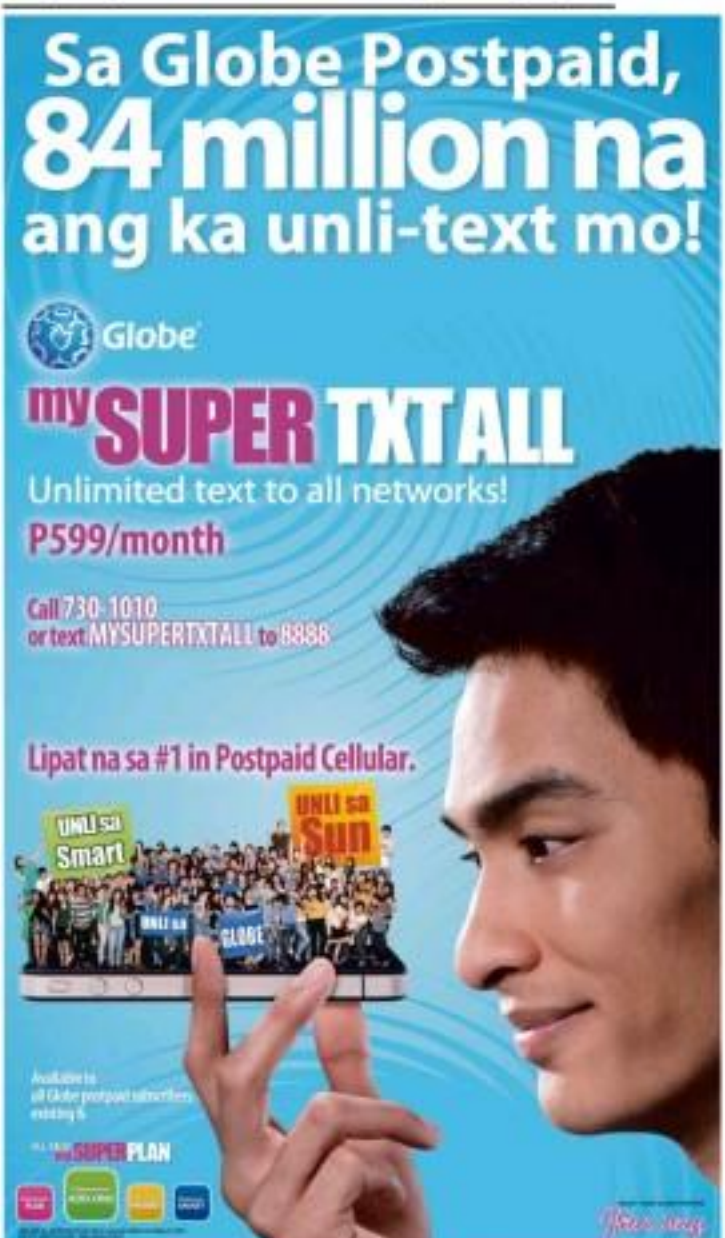
Mrk Van Hagen, of course, is an accomplished and eclectic photog in the Manila scene. It was amazing to see him ditch his DSLR for an E7. I almost wanted to ask Canon when I can make a phone call from their cameras!

"Mrk Hagen & Rian Hagen: Brothers in Art Part 2," (not only had stunning photos, it also showed lovely copper earrings. The exhibit cocktails at Peninsula Manila included guests Dutch Ambassador Hubert Bruls and former Dutch Ambassador Theo Arnold, Ana Abad Santos, Cris Albert of FILA, Peninsula Manila general manager Jonathan Crook with his wife Belles, and Nokia corporate communications head Nikka Abes.

While Ana had his photos, Rian showed his mastery of copper etching. The latter hitched a ride into el Escape's contemporary masterwork for guests. "Rian Hagen & Ian Hagen: Brothers in Art Part 2" was presented by FILA, Peninsula Manila, Ismar Infotech, Belo Medical Group, Bench, Citi, Nokia, ELM and Philippine Tatler, in cooperation with Mercato, Fratelli's, Pronto & Nuevo, Charriol, Mark & Chandon and Power Mac Center. A portion of the proceeds from the exhibit benefited the Heal Life Foundation.

MAN SEVA, GO

TESSA Prieto-Valdes and daughter Athena



PRINCESS Rabiaana Mara, Italian Ambassador Luca Fornari, Tina Jacinto, Cynthia Carrion, Peninsula GM Sonja Vukicevic, Silvana Fornari and Pinky Puno

"FABULOUS" book editor Hyacinth Cardenas, Manny Osmeña of Manny O wines, Angela Ureña, Zena Ureña and Cleo Ureña-DJ, South China Sea Region, Air France KLM's

HOST. Hostess of Mari Gra, Rupert Jacinto, Ray Ortiz and David Lim

Beautiful people worth beautiful photographs

From page B1

"FABULOUS II" portrait: (Clockwise from top left) HRH the Duchess of Calabria, Marquesa de Valdeolmo, Marquesa de Campo Real, Marquesa de Tamarit and Dona Pilar Soldevila-Lopez. (Foreground) Rupert Jacinto

Rupert's fab photos

The Peninsula Manila was also the scene of the glittering, coffee-table book launch and photo exhibit. The Gallery of the Pen dazzled with Anchen Alkazar's special touch. Anchen decorated the long stretch of the gallery with towering gold and silver pillars and massive European lamp posters.

Among the highlights of the exhibit were Rupert's portraits of royalty, headed by Her Royal Highness, the Duchess of Calabria, the Marquesa de Valdeolmo, Marquesa de Campo Real, Marquesa de Tamarit and selected women of Spain.

Co-presented with Air France-KLM, the launch was presented in partnership with the Advertising Foundation of the Philippines, in support of the Love A Parent program of the Sto. Niño de Ibo, which supports needy churches across the country. Other partners included 3D Philippines, Manny D Nines, Mast Dot Production, Triple R Large Format, Philippine Star/Abante, FILA, OISE Executives, UGE Computers, ALFOR, CWC International and On Printing.

Rupert's latest major undertaking is the spread of the youngest daughter Atheena and L'Dan one was not taken with a Nokia 6T.

Atheena and I will be also be joining a children's fashion show for charity on May 8 in celebration of Mother's Day Mothers for Others is a charity event with a mission to provide life-saving surgeries to more than 100 of the critical children on the Boston Sons 365 Pediatric Heart projects," he

Bamboo Bites has been working extra hard to make Mothers for Others an extraordinary event. The exclusive, by-invitation only Champagne Brunch at the Makati Shangri-La Hotel is supported by Wilkie Wines, Wilkes brand manager Theresa-Ann Somes she noted that PLDT Smart Foundation and Unicorn Center were her co-sponsors.

The HR 360 advisory board includes Audrey Zobel, Carla Ramirez, Dawn Zubiri, Jackie Ulanday-Hess, Kaye Tiñga, Lira Chua, Maria Padilla, Marvin Medwick, Pilar Pe and Rajo Laurel. Speaking of my love designer, Raja will be dressing Athena and I for the event. The other children will showcase designs of Jesus Sotto, Rhett Eala, Dennis Lustico, Jun Escario, Paul Cabral, Randy Ortiz, Pepito Albert, Gary Santiagan, Philbert Ramos-Dee, Jojo Llorca and Jearhadel Jacinto.

DREAMBREAKER Harry Thomas (third from left), with Rupert Jacinto, Peninsula Manila GM Sonja Vukicevic and Peninsula's Chloe Budin

TINA Jacinto, Beth Day Romulo, Betsy Wurzelbacher and Rupert Jacinto

PENINSULA Manila's Jonathan Crook, Betsy Wurzelbacher and Czech Ambassador Robert Brinke

ARTISTIC pair Daniel and Monica Dela Cruz and Annika and Tessa Valdez

ART lovers Stephanie Zobel, honored teacher photographer Max and Miel Wat Hagan, Tessa Valdez and daughter Annika

Justin Bieber

Another event sure to be peppered by the Ohana pajamaed is the Justin Bieber My World Tour" on May 10 at the SM Mall of Asia Concert Grounds. Smart, with TV5 and in cooperation with Music Management International and MDF Productions, is presenting what is undoubtedly one country's concert of the year.

Despite his young age, Justin Bieber has been a worldwide phenomenon with so many chart-topping hits. I'm sure the concert will be a veritable who's who of Manila's music and social scene. Tickets, as usual, are available at Ticketworld, www.ticketworld.com.ph or call 891-9999. Another outlet is SM Tickets, www.smtickets.com.ph or tel. 470-2222.

Among the "smart" co-sponsors for the Bieberfied are Beach, 101 Mall of Asia, FOX, Star World, Music Management International and MDF. Also on the thank you list are Edu Manzarisa Manila, 909 Personals, MOR Music, Tiger23 and Shark Beer. Lastly, the media partners include The Philippine Star, Manila Bulletin, Summit World, Nickelodeon, Jack 90.3, Wave 89.1, Magic 89.9, iBC 93.1, Modern 88.7, 99.5 RT, 910.5 MOR 101, Y101 Cebu, 1602 FM Davao 93.3, Candy, Total Girl, ICXnow, Otc Magazine, Philstar.com and Yahoo! Philippines.

Performing with Justin Bieber is Boomerie, a dance crew hailed as champions of America's Best Dance Crew Season 5, and also the Team of the Year at the World of Dance awards. This hip-hop troupe will be showing a bit of their stuff at various SM Malls in shows up and coming. Catch the Heroes of Mall Show at 5 p.m. at SM Megamall on May 6, SM North Edsa on May 7, and SM Mall of Asia on May 8. For complete info, check www.beliebersinmanila.com.

I'll already be with Bieber on May 10, along with my daughter Annika and my friend Bella. And see YOU hoping every picture is worth a thousand songs?

Follow Rupe on Twitter @rupertalks or email her at rupertcom@inquirer.com.ph.

THE AMAZING Mothers for Others and their beloved ones. Seated, Joy Zaparta-Del Rosario and daughter Isabela, Jackie Ulanday-Hess and daughter Andrea, Kaye Tinga with son Cody and Christian, Marianne Pe and daughter Marissa and Audrey Zobel with daughter Adriana and son Juan Miguel with Joshua Yu. Standing, Venice Laurel and daughter Alle, Nanette Madrid and mom Faye, Tessa Prieto-Valdez and daughter Athena, Charlene Tiu and son Andrei, Tiffany Go and daughter Natalie.

MOTHERS for Others-Bamboo Bites Adboard with the master designers Carlo Kerussa, Randy Ortiz, Audrey Zobel, Rhett Eala, Nanette Madrid-Pe, Raja Laurel, Inar Aseron, Maria Padilla, Kaye Tinga, Dennis Lustico and Jackie Ulanday-Hess

PRETTY girls Alle Laurel-Hernandez and Athena Prieto-Valdez

MOTHERS for Others moms and girls Joy Zaparta-del Rosario with daughter Isabela and Venice Laurel-Hernandez with daughter Alle

SMART Infinity's Annie Bachoco, Bobby Aquino, Marga Cobarrubias and Ruth Tsai

DANTAY Bota Advisory Board members Nanette Madrid-Pe and Kaye Tinga with Aeron Aseron and Isa Prieto

ALEX Van Hagen with Nikki's Nikki Abot

SMART Infinity team Ruth Tsai, Isa Prieto-Valdez and Marga Cobarrubias

PHOTO taken using the Nokia 8T

CITIBANK'S Sonja Zanoli with wife Corina (left) and Anneh Lim

Six Mega Ways To Spend Summer With Your Kids

How to keep your kids cool this long hot summer? Here's a list of six great ways for them to have fun - and spend some quality time with you - at the SM Megamall

1. TREAT THEM TO THE SWEET SIDE OF SUMMER

We've got the most delicious and colorful cakes, the coolest frozen delights, and everything nice in a mega way.

Cakes R Us

These cakes and cupcakes are customized to give a personal touch for your party needs. Located at the Fifth Floor of the Mega Atrium. Contact 437-1910.

Stick House

Cool treats for kids during the hot summer days. Gelato and sorbetto on sticks as good you can't resist them. Located at the Lower Ground Floor of Mega A. Contact 470-8858.

Just Fruit

It's never too early for kids to learn to eat healthy. Kids will have fun with the self-serve yoghurt at Just Fruit, where they can create their own delicious concoctions.

2. HELP THEM CREATE THEIR OWN SUMMER STYLE

It's never too early for kids to learn to be fashionable, and they will be in touch with the latest trends at our specially-fashion stores for girls and boys at the Mega Atrium.

Peppermint

The lifestyle brand for children—and pre-teens—that mixes on-trend clothes their really rock. Located at the Fifth Floor of the Mega Atrium. Contact 570-2442.

Periwinkle

Blending styles that are classic and contemporary, this Singapore-based brand presents the long tradition of mothers who love dressing up their children. Cheerful color-ful, muted earth colors, and timeless whits are some of Periwinkle's trademark hues. Located at the Second Floor of Mega A. Contact 638-0800.

Pois Belly and Kids

This fashion forward line—from fashion forward maternity, girls and preteen clothes that show us that style or ageless. Located at the Fifth Floor of the Mega Atrium. Contact 470-1329.

3. Share Accessory Fun to Have Fun with Brands You Grew Up With

Like most moms, you grew up with Barbie and the Sanrio characters, and the good news is that these well-loved brands are as popular today at the SM Megamall.

Barbie

Generations of girls have grown up with this iconic fashion doll and today, the world of Barbie continues to create excitement with fashionistas of all ages.

Gift Gate

Gift Gate has been home to Sanrio characters like Hello Kitty, Little Twin Stars, My Melody, and Hero Keroppi, each with their own universe with their own friends and family and their own unique story that speaks to their sweet personality. Share small gifts and big smiles at their store at the Ground Floor of Mega B. Contact 633-1157.

4. CREATE MEGA SUMMER MEMORIES

With pictures that show your child at his cutest and most adorable, and personalized stuff that will give him a sense of identity.

Fu x Boo

Capture those smiles and precious moments in this photo studio (Japan) specially for kids. Located at the Fifth Level of the Mega Atrium. Contact 631-2026 or visit their website at www.yuxboostudio.com.

It's Personal

Send your greetings in cards with drawings customized to look like you. You can also have your accessories made in your image, after all, it's Personal. Located at the Second Floor of Mega A. Contact 726-8200.

5. MAKE MALLING A FUN EXPEDITION

Cute cute animal carts that will allow your little one to navigate around the mall with ease.

Anime Cart

Kids will enjoy driving around the mall with you in these colorful and well designed carts. Located at the Ground Floor of Mega A. Contact 0917-998-4508.

6. OPEN THEIR EYES TO A WHOLE NEW WORLD

Their imagination will be boundless as they explore exciting new worlds right in the comfort of the mall.

Kinder

Experience the magic of a 4D Adventure in Forest, Underworld, Aero Star, Dinter Creator, Hwang, Space, and Dinosaur themes. Located at the Lower Ground Floor of SM Megamall Mega A. Contact 687-0330.

Horticulture and diplomatic affairs fill up Cebu calendar

CEBU CEBU

Jaime Piccinnati

WE OF Three was one of the most successful events held at the Atrium of SM City Cebu. It featured beautiful Barbara Bolta arrangements; bonsai decorated trees, some in bloom and even fruiting; and tranditional flower arrangements, some tough or unusual, but an entire weekend could guess some to drown to admire horticulture.

It was all to the credit of Barbara International Cebu Chapter 7(8) president Carmen Dio, the Cebu Bonsai Society headed by Norma Sanchez, and the Cebu Ikebana Society whose top man is Dr. Ado Macaraya. All agreed that most who said she went to Jean Cummer's festival of a showing tumbled tree from which is being a tiny "sampaloc fruit."

Cutting the ceremonial ribbon were SM Prime vice president Marlene Ferrari, Consul General of the People's Republic of China and Dio outgoing, Consul General Japan Tsuhiko Okajima. Yoshiaki Hara has taken his place as Japan's Consul-and-Consulate in Cebu.

A full and farewell reception was scheduled to take place hosted by Japan's Ambassador Makoto Katsura, but it was canceled in deference to the recent calamities. It would also have served for Ambassador Katsura to say farewell to his many friends in Cebu, as he will soon complete his tour of duty in the Philippines.

Sangkran

Gilmanis had a glimpse as well as a taste of Sangkran when the Royal Thai Embassy held a celebration at the Casa Feria of the Radisson Blu Hotel. Host for the occasion was Chakorn Sarikhin, the embassy's Minister and Chief of Mission.

Also here were Pulgapuri Thonrueangsing, the pretty Pim Sovereign; Somrudi Chaisri; and Pornsara Parung, executive assistant and investigator while the chef gave a demo on some specialties from Thai cuisine.

The hotel's general manager Ernst Gaehle, literally spread out the red carpet for them, and for a group of special guests who took part in the release of tiny birds from small bamboo cages to fly into the night air.

Everyone applauded the performance of the symphonic Khong Thai dancer by two young men in colorful costumes, one beating a drum, and the other, a gong, first of all, there was an array of liberated dishes, not severe, easily spicy, for all to feast on.

Canadian tryst

Canadian Ambassador Christopher Thornley has visited Cebu several times since his arrival in the Philippines. The first time was on Sept. 23-24 for the celebration of Cebu Press Week.

In early November he was back, officially and paid courtesy calls on Gov. Gwendolyn Garcia at the Provincial Capitol, and on Cebu City Mayor Michael Rama at City Hall. With him was Williams Payne, president of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines. There was a preliminary launch of a CanChem chapter in Cebu.

Closely instrumental in this achievement have been Consul Honorary Consul to Cebu Mabel Lee and his wife Ms Annie Lee. They have also been credited with the largest attendance ever at the Dec. 2 Christmas Gathering of Canadians and Friends of Canada. More than 600 came, one of them Ambassador Thornley's own children.

AT THE Canada park preview at the Marco Polo Plaza Hotel: general manager Flora Hauri, executive chef Luke Gagnon and Canadian Ambassador Christopher Thornley

In mid-March Ambassador Thornley was once more in Cebu, this time with a medical mission from Canada, and to deliver a donation to the St. Vincent General Hospital.

It was gratefully accepted by Dr. Elena Ting, the hospital's president, until by board chair lawyer Augusto Go. Honorary Consul-General of Korea in Cebu. In the medical mission were Dr. Chiew Li, Robert and Alan Lee's sons-in-law.

Two weeks later, Ambassador Thornley returned to Cebu to preside the launch of the Canada Park Project at Café Blanco of the Marco Polo Plaza Hotel. Instead of the usual ribbon to cut there was a huge slab of Canadian pork to carve and tasty items.

Featuring the Ambassador was Maridon Orp Wayne Jonas Cortes, along with Consul and Mrs Lee, the hotel's general manager Flora Hauri and the executive chef Luke Gagnon who is Canadian.

The Park was actually upstairs at the Manila Room where a party was in full throttle. Chefs were doing up the Canadian pork, seasoning it, and cooking it in varied ways. There was a long, super line for that. Others crowded at a station serving delicious caviars were being given a dash of lemon, and consequently swallowed with gulps of delight.

Bill Vernon, representing Pacific Blue Oysters, gave the specialists at them, and they served as encouragement for many of us to get a double ration. Where to get those oysters in Cebu; or dining Escallot's Jedco.

More trade

That was a solemn moment when Robert and Annie Lee were asked by Ambassador Thornley to step up on the dais. It was to announce that Nobel has just received a certificate appointing him to his fifth consecutive term as Honorary Consul of Canada in Cebu. It was likewise a very heartfelt, and well deserved, too.

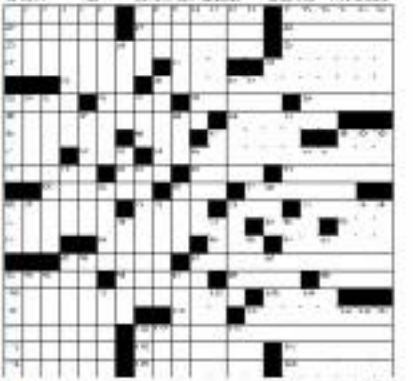
Another highlight of the evening was a toast to more trade in Cebu with Canada, and asked, to officiate was Flora Hauri, with his usual aplomb. He it made for the delight of the next noon. It was his naval day, and the assemblage rendered a hearty Happy Birthday song.

There was much clinking of glasses, filled to their brims with Sun Canadian red wine. What else?

Adam Levine - Hands All Over Yoga

SUNDAY CROSSWORD

PREMIER CROSSWORD By Frank A. Longo — MAY DAY



answer on page D3

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■ How I found my paradise /G1

Sunday LIFESTYLE

Bringing back harmony between our food and our planet

STORY ON PAGE G3

Kid Scouts making new friends

Kid Scout's Biggest Summer Ever!

From across the country, over 10,000 Jollibee Kids Club members came together for one goal: to become better kids! This summer, Jollibee Kids Club brought back the very successful Kid Scout program – a 6-day in-store activity that featured workshops on acting, singing, dancing, arts and crafts, snack-making, values-formation, and so much more! Through this program, participating club members honed their talents and skills to help them become the best that they can be. To make the event even more inspiring, a special Jollibee Kids Club anthem was composed for the little scouts. Every kid in the program sang with pride! And at the end of 6 days, everyone had bonded, connected and learned!

Looking for even more fun activities? Jollibee Kids Club has great programs lined up year-round! So moms, make your child a member today by going to your nearest Jollibee store. Ask any of the Jollibee crew to assist you. By being a Jollibee Kids Club member, your good kids will surely get even better!

Learning how to make burgers

Taking their club oath

Learning fun facts about Jollibee

Assisting elderly customers

Receiving their workshop diplomas

Creating fun artworks

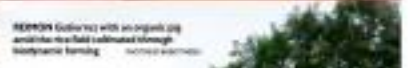
Posing for their batch picture

Greeting customers at the store

Playing games with newfound friends

SALAMIN ("welcome" in Pampanga) building echoes the lore of the pig's

"Eli's Puzzle," Ayala's Alice sculpture is made from old newspapers makes a striking statement at the corridor of the Bataraza building. The images are from personal influences and homecoming celebrities from the Mamaril's families, Lucio.



HERMON Gutierrez with an organic pig amid the rice field cultivated through biodynamic farming PHOTOS BY BOY TORIO

Bringing back harmony between our food and our planet

By Margo C. Enriquez
Lifestyle Editor

A VISIT to the Prado Farms in Lubao, Pampanga, is a visceral experience. Most of the buildings are a spontaneous composite of salvaged architecture, each telling a distinct character.

In the lobby, vintage chairs are cushioned on the ceiling, and juxtaposed against Mike Smail's valuable shark, a weighing scale and more board objects. The veranda is a burst of bright colors and a whimsical blend of bold patterns and textures from the floor and ceiling. There is a dining area by the pond, actually a catchbasin for rain.

Our first taste of Pampanga hospitality is a tangy tamarind juice, whose fruit is grown in the Prado Farms. Breakfast is ham, fresh mozzarella & buffalo, made without rennet, that goes with the first-rate roundish pan de sal from the pro-star bakery in Angeles.

The dangguwa has been announced in its own fat and air dried, while the Filipino potato is a savory ground meat dish with peas, taro, bell peppers and egg, cooked in butter. The organic rice, harvested from the backyard paddy, can be eaten farmer's style—drenched in carabao's milk and or their spiked with salt or sugar to taste.

Another alternative is the homemade champorado with crispy tuwilo. The luscious hot chocolate, from the cocoa pods in the lot, is accompanied by fresh mangoes.

Renewal

The host, architect-designer turned-organic farmer Hermon Gutierrez, explains that the five-hectare Prado Farms reflects the family's initiative for sustainable living. Its raison d'etre: if plants and animals are indicators of the state of the planet's health, we're in trouble. Once a sacred teamwork, the relationship between people and produce has become one of commodities exploitation. Philosophers and artists have taken up the cudgels to bring back that harmony.

Musical savant Rudolf Steiner, who founded biodynamic agriculture and Waldorf education, had predicted that the artificial breeding of animals would have severe repercussions, such as the fatality of the honeybees and Mad Cow disease. Pesticides, herbicides, hormones and other man-made substances aggravate the problem.

Gutierrez takes pride in the fact that the farm is committed to biodynamic farming. "In chemical farming, the plants take in the chemicals and end up looking bloated and too green. Very little of its nutrition comes from a natural source. In biodynamic farming, the farm is to prepare the soil, which has so much a colloidal state. A soil that is life-filled enables the plant to access nutrients in the soil. If the soil is not alive, the plants may be dead."

As the farmer prepares the soil, he actually remembers the land before the planting and harvest. His activities must be aligned with certain conditions of the moon and sun. "These affect the life of the plant from planting to harvest," Gutierrez explains.

The yields are soon on the table. Fourth half's order: produce from Gutierrez and hare, then picked up at his office in Bobbon, Makati. The rest are part of the Prado Farms' coffee shop.

Operated by the Gutierrez siblings, the Prado Farms is not run like a restaurant. They even turned down a VIP who made a last minute booking. However, it offers culinary activities and provides facilities for stay in workshops with advance booking. Some of its regulars are the Vicente Cuisong Manor of Tracey Santiago and Pinoy Kain Wo(EXPERT) of Paul Zondal.

Every May, Prado Farms hosts the Mangan Tanan (which literally means "culinary abundance" or eat-all-you-can), which takes pride in the province as the culinary capital of Luzon. Aside from the cornucopia of fish, the festival presents heritage and performances.

Organic 'bedtam'

The weekend of May 7 and 8 will offer breakfast, lunch and high tea with request kebas and bee-range duck as the centre-cuts. Gutierrez awaits meeting a doctor who applied the Silly Ferment, using enzymes from the pigs' pancreas to treat patients with pancreatic cancer. Although the cancer still dwindled, the patients got allergic reactions because the pigs were from factory farms. The doctor suggested for Gutierrez to raise organic pigs. "Our bread is a mix of native and baby corn that eats arugula," he says.

The organic wallking pig is confined with the farm's lemongrass and spiced duck and ituraba (roasted pork belly). The dish, which comes from another farm with sterilizer facilities, is served in a terracotta soup called sa-la, simmered in lemongrass with plain noodles and topped with cracked pork rinds and crab roe.

There are other specialties such as vilmor or milkfish stuffed with pork, milkfish belly, green peas, potatoes and cassia lapat made of durian (native cucumber) and shrimp, dringhe (sticky rice with turmeric and coconut milk); lampo (marinated pork belly) and balungking (vegetable stew with pork).

The Harvest Meal or salad station is the main attraction. It is a bounty of sweet-spring beans, cucumbers, cherry tomatoes, Chinese cabbage, arugula, lettuces, Aurora cups, amaranth, chaplet (spinach-vine), tomatoes with vinaigrette and orange dressing.

Gutierrez had once been stricken by a skin condition, and cured himself by going vegetarian for two years. "Because of what I had gone through, I wondered if my food choices could help other people."

The second week explains the whole cycle, from planning to meal. On May 15, there will be a lecture on Practical Aboitiz on a hands-on introduction to Biodynamic Agriculture. May 14 celebrates Nora Aunor and Lyza Aberdeen will conduct the Upscale Pinoy Boys, on Indonesian meat-food preparation, styling workshop and crescendo dinner featuring a demo on slow-food cooking, including Bali gulay, Balinese lechon.

The festival will climax with a matinee, "Mamamarine," a Capampangan surrealist western and directed by Andy Abeto and performed by the DMI, a group of musical theater artists with special guests from Antipas NHS.

Ultimately, Gutierrez says the experience is about "slow food. "It's so slow we had to plant the ingredients way before the festival, and the cooking takes hours. In the end, the learning of the cholesterol is not derived from the ingredients, but from the ritual of the preparation, the communal sharing, and the happiness with which it is eaten."

For bookings or inquiries for the Mangan Tanan Festival 2011, please call DuroTales, Inc. at (02) 239-0858 or 0917-545-3023/0920-923-3631 or email at tourdesks@gmail.com.

THE THEATER is a hodgepodge of architecture salvages. The stage is decked with bright Jessica cathedral benches, old windows & vintage bronzes and Pagan chandeliers.

A BOUNTY of banana tops, Chinese cabbage, green beans, cucumber, arugula, amaranth and other greens is a staple at the food festival.

THE BALANCE in Barcelo Jewish means "to rest" Jewelry salvaged scarfs from an old store in Subic. Pope San Pontiff's sword hovers over the Art Deco vanity dresser.

Go on a healthy foodie adventure to the Prado Farms, where the produce is organic, the food cooked slow and the happiness quotient high

HARVEST from the farm

TRAVEL BRIEFS

Pilgrimage tour to Tarlac

SHOW May 13 with leading priest Rev. Fr. Hermon Osorio, SDJ, on a pilgrimage tour to the Monastery-Inn in Tarlac, where the sacred relic of the true cross upon which Jesus Christ was crucified and died is housed in a silver reliquary. The relic is the only one of its kind in Asia, but exclusive to Monsignor Walter Brunn of the Diocese of Essen, Germany, who loaned the custodian of the relic, in Rev. Fr. Ronald Thomas Cooke, Prior of the Servants of the Risen Christ Monastic Community, when they met during the 2005 World Youth Day in Cologne, Germany.

Fr. Wallace will attend an select Sunday masses and hear confessions during stops at the San Sebastian Cathedral in Subic City and at the Chapel of Our Lady of Lourdes in Hacienda Luisita. He will then celebrate a Healing Mass at the Church of the Risen Christ, followed by the reinvestiture of the Relic of the Holy Cross of Jesus, where the pilgrims will be allowed a close look at the cross fragment in the reliquary and pay homage, and be blessed spiritually.

Pilgrimage tour costs P1,800 inclusive of land travel through an air-conditioned motor coach, lunch at the Monasterio de Tarlac, and services of a DOT-accredited tour guide. Pilgrimage director is Fr. Wallace Osorio, SDJ.

Call/Log into Philippines Tours Inc. at 8329446, 09173276669, 09157-8215518, Cindy Roque - requests will be accommodated.

Hawaiian Airlines announces new fare promo to Hawaii and US cities

Leading international carrier Hawaiian Airlines announced its latest fare promo, "Cool Summer Treats," for travel to Hawaii and any of 10 mainland US cities. Booking and ticketing is ongoing until May 15, subject to availability of seats.

Those traveling to Hawaii via economy class may take the special round-trip fare of US$488 valid for one month, or US$588 valid for two months. Those traveling to any of 10 mainland US cities can avail themselves of the US$488 promo fare valid for one month. Same period for all-inclusive mainland US destinations via economy is from Aug. 8-Dec. 17.

Hawaiian is also offering a special business class roundtrip fare of US$1,328 to Hawaii, and US$1,648 to any of 10 mainland US destinations. Both special fares are valid for six months, for departure within June 1-Dec. 17.

Hawaii destinations include Honolulu, Kona, Hilo, Kahului, and Lihue (Hawaiian). 10 mainland US destinations include San Francisco, Los Angeles, Portland, Las Vegas, Phoenix, San Diego, Sacramento, San Jose, Seattle and Oakland.

All promo rates exclude fuel surcharges and applicable taxes. Hawaiian Airlines offers the most number of nonstop flights between Manila and Hawaii. It flies from Manila to Honolulu every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, with convenient same-carrier connecting flights to Kona, Hilo, Kahului, Lihue, and 10 mainland US cities.

Call 8159393 or 57 or email sales@hawaiianair.com.ph.

Sofitel introduces new director of sales and marketing

Sofitel Philippine Plaza has appointed Ann Hallan-Isnit Chantelle Gaines director of sales and marketing to lead its dynamic team of sales and marketing communications professionals.

Having had over 20 years of experience in the hotel industry, Gainey brings to Sofitel Philippine Plaza a strong background in sales and marketing, as well as a proven track record and performance in the tourism industry. She has successfully led sales and marketing teams from each four- to five-star hotels as Sofitel Brisbane Central Hotel, the Radisson Hotels, and the Sheraton Mirage Gold Coast, among others.

Says Garvey of her management style, "It empowers and encourages the team and individuals to use creativity and dynamic strategies to achieve key results. Leading by example, strong communication, transparency, high level enthusiasm, and creative rapport are key strengths."

She adds, "I am thrilled to be in Manila and look forward to a great year ahead at Sofitel Philippine Plaza."

General manager Conor Mac says of Garvey's appointment, "We are absolutely delighted that Ms Garvey has joined us. I have no doubt that she will be a prime mover in driving the hotel's business, and that she will truly take the Sofitel Philippine Plaza to even greater heights of success."

Mandarin Oriental Manila offers Mother's Day treats

MANDARIN ORIENTAL, Manila reminds mothers with exquisite tastes, pampering treatments, bespoke floral arrangements, and an urban getaway on Mothers Day on May 8.

Mama who dine at Dusit Thani, Tin Hau, and The Knoll or book the Mother's Day room package or the Mother's Day spa treatment get the chance to win special prizes, including a golden Dalmatian family fun pound premium from Aeroliner, one of five sets of Tefal kitchenware, and a BMW Test Drive.

The Knoll offers lunch prepared by French chef René Verrolli, consisting of an appetizer buffet, main course from a choice of five dishes, and an ample dessert selection. A raffle where the lucky ones are exquisite freshwater pearl necklace from Jet Black. The Mother's Day Lunch at the Knoll is priced at P1,950+.

The Han pearlers sumptuous Mother's Day set menu prepared by executive chinese chef Hans Pura Chee. The set menu start at P1,545+ per person.

Dusit Thani, Mandarin Oriental, Manila's all-day dining buffet, treats mothers on a hearty Thai-themed buffet, in conjunction with the ongoing Thai Food Festival. The Dusit Thai Mother's Day buffet is at P1,950+.

As a grand tribute to mothers, Mandarin Oriental, Manila offers a special room package available on all weekends of May, which makes for an ideal stay-cation or urban getaway for the entire family.

The room package, which starts at P9,308 for an overnight weekend stay in a Superior Room, includes buffet breakfast for two persons at Dusit Thani; complimentary local calls; and 10 percent discount on all restaurants, including room service. Additional perks await those who book on Mother's Day weekend from May 8-9, such as a complimentary bouquet of flowers from Flowers by Mandarin Oriental, Manila.

Moms who book at the Mandarin Oriental Club get a complimentary access treat at the hotel's haute Le Mayol. Spa, and a one-hour massage at the Spa at Mandarin Oriental, Manila.

A refreshing spa treatment awaits Mom at The Spa at Mandarin Oriental, Manila with a two-hour session with a body scrub, detoxifying body wrap, mini-facial and body massage, priced at P8,308, and available for the entire month of May.

Call 7508888 or e-mail mosreservations@mohg.com or mosreq-spa@mohg.com.

MOMS who dine or book the Mother's Day room package or spa treatment at Mandarin Oriental get the chance to win special prizes.

MANILA NORTH TOLLWAYS CORPORATION

PLDT

SMART

Mother's Day promos

WHAT'S UP

GATEWAY MALL, the New Aircon and Farmers Plaza in Araneta Center have special activities for Mother's Day.

Shop in these malls on May 1 and get a chance to have an on-the-spot makeover with the 5th Pilipinas 2011 winners. There mommy shoppers will be given personalized fashion, hair and makeup service: clothes, makeup and gift packs.

For a minimum purchase of two Pacquiao-Mosley tickets at Digidex or Big Score on May 8, or P500 at any of the participating restaurants, moms and kids get a free spa pass and free bottle pass. The pass entitles moms to have a facial, massage, manicure or hair styling at the activity areas of Gateway, Ali Mall and Farmers Plaza. The kids can use their pass in Play Area in Gateway and Bike Mall, or enjoy the giant inflatables at Farmers Plaza.

Not the last doesn't end there.

Souvenir photos will also be available which can be claimed in the activity area and posted on Araneta Center's Facebook Page.

MOTHER'S DAY CAKE
Goldilocks' Sensorio Chocolate Meltdow Cake, a treat for moms on her special day. It is a triple layer chocolate cake with a liquid chocolate center, topped with creme praline, with double row of chocolate butter-cream icing and dark chocolate ganache drippings. Call 888-1999 for delivery

Yoga workshops

Echoyoga will set workshops as therapies and classes for newcomers. Beginners Grounding Workshop on May 6, 12, 19, and 26, 6:30 p.m., will give newbies grounding techniques and introduce them to the basic principles of yoga.

Yoga for Life, specific for those with AIDS and HIV, will also be offered. Yoga Therapy for Depression for the benefit of Natasha Goulbourne Foundation on May 1 and 14, 4 p.m., focuses on therapeutic yoga poses. Sessions will include energy healing with Reiki healers who will teach and demonstrate the flow of Universal Grid Jo.

Yoga Therapy for Athletes on May 21, 4 p.m., will be a series of therapeutic yoga sequences for athletes, trainers and physical therapists.

Visiting teacher Tara Khandro will facilitate Awakening the Conscious Heart, May 28, 4 p.m. It will include a movement, chanting, shamanic journeying, meditation, mirrors, and validation and play.

Echoyoga regular classes include Gentle Flow, Restorative Yoga/Yoga for Shy People and Ashtanga Vinyasa at Unit 2 at Echoyoga Community Center at the penthouse of Century Plaza, 120 Perea St., Legaspi Village, Makati. Visit echoyoga.activeboss.ph; SMS 0906-5883858; or e-mail echoyogaweb@yahoo.com.

MERRELL SPORTS SHOES
Merrell Footwear has introduced Barefoot Collection, which includes True and Trail Glove for men and Pure Glove for women, available in Merrell shops in department stores. The new collection reduces impact on feet, joints and muscles, making barefoot runners more agile and alert. It also improves posture, stimulates foot receptors, and strengthens feet and leg muscles. Present during the event were Merrell ambassador Thorithe Remigio and Barefoot Running Philippines' Boss Delos and Dindo Magallanes.

ANTI-'KUTO' AND DENGUE CAMPAIGN
The Alis Kuto and Iwas Dengue campaigns are ongoing in several schools and barangays in Metro Manila. The Bluebasket company, distributor of Diganics products, have been conducting the project for three years now to raise awareness on proper hygiene. Diganics products include Head Lice Shampoo, Anti-Kuto Herbal Lotion and Droplet Choice Pet House Cleanser with key ingredients based on natural plant extracts, available in Mercury Drugstores and supermarkets. Call 3434896, 3427684, 0917-8706693.

Sunday LIFESTYLE

MARIDES Fernando during the My City, My SM launch at SM City Marikina with SM's vice president for operations Bino Matos and vice president for marketing Mike Bisnar.

Marides Fernando and her Marikina

SOMI Marikina specialties Macky's Bistro, a popular food stop, is known for its famous recipe developed by Dolores Ziguenguia. Barbie's delicious pata, on the other hand, comes from a heirloom recipe of the Rocha family, which uses steaming, crisping or fermented rice flour, topping it with cheese.

'I love the food here, the lugaw and goto from Macky, the lutong Tagalog dishes in the homes like the Everlasting, which is like a meat loaf with raisins and pickles. During fiesta time, Marikenos cook a lot'

GUIDED by her husband Bayani's vision of a modern, livable city, Ma. Lourdes C. Fernando has played an important role in transforming Marikina into the beautiful and industrialized city it is today.

As Mayor of Marikina from 2000-2010, she brought a paradigm shift in local governance from being a service provider to that of an economic manager. She ran the city like a private corporation, one where there are customers, workers, and stakeholders. Her corporate approach to community management has elevated Marikina to become among the Best Managed Cities in the Philippines.

During her term, Marikina was named the Most Competitive Metro City in the Philippines in 2002 and 2003, and received the Galing Pook Award for Innovations and Excellence in 2001 and 2008. She was also cited as the Most Outstanding Woman in Government

MARIDES 11

'If I would take a guest around Marikina, I would take them to Kapitan Moy so they will know more about the city's culture'

THE 200-YEAR old residence of Don Laureano Guevara, better known as Kapitan Moy and considered the founder of the footwear industry in the Philippines, was where the first pair of Marikina shoes were designed in 1887. Cited as a historical place by the National Historical Commission, it has since been developed into the city's cultural center.

THROUGH hard work and discipline, and guided by the vision of a modern Marikina city, Bayani and Marides Fernando have since founded Marikina's transformation into the famed tiled and footwear-inclined urban city it is today.

'More than just building roads and infrastructure in a city, I think it is also important to build character just what Bayani tried to do. He tried to instill discipline, the need for personal change, and the need for everyone to do his or her share in governance. That is what we worked for during the last 18 years'

my city my SM

Why I love Marikina

My Marikina

Marikina is known as the Shoe Capital of the Philippines with skilled artisans giving rise to a vibrant shoe industry in the 20th century. A lush valley surrounded by scenic mountain ranges and a flowing river, Marikina is today a multi-awarded metropolitan city, often cited for its dynamic economy – which includes the presence of an SM mall, as well as for its government's efforts towards sustainable urban development and public service. Sharing her husband Bayani's vision of a modern livable city, former Mayor Marides Fernando has played a vital role in the growth of Marikina. Here, she takes us around her home city and the SM mall in it.

Why I love SM

Marides Fernando

www.mycitymysm.com

Printed and distributed by Newspaper Direct

Marikina
–city of parks and churches

By Irene C. Perez

SAN ISIDRO Labrador Chapel

OUR LADY of the Abandoned Parish

SAN ISIDRO Labrador Chapel under the Parish of St. Joseph the Worker

Cloyland Park

San Isidro Labrador Chapel

Our Lady of the Abandoned Parish

A harvest of 's

By Yvan Eastgland

SANDALS
in rich bright, chunky accents

Roasted Pork Crackling, 'Everlasting,' Huaknatoy, Lumpiang Hubad, 'puto't kutsinta'–food, glorious food

By Irene C. Perez

WHEN IN Marikina, there are two things you should never miss: Check out shoes sold at slashed-off prices, and eat the city's glorious food.

Marides Fernando and her Marikina

"During our business trips abroad, Bp and I often have a river can be an asset to a city just like it is in Paris, Singapore, Korea, and San Antonio Texas. We thought that it could actually be done – transform the river into a beautiful and clean place that could be an asset to the community.

"The shoe industry has been the pride of Marikina for many years, and the Shoe Museum is our way of paying tribute to it."

SM City Marikina has brought great shopping, leisure, and entertainment to the city, and has also been instrumental in the growth and development.

"SM is a big addition to the city of Marikina. When you upgrade a city, you have to provide modern amenities, and SM has provided the convenience of shopping as well as a center for events and activities. It has also served to gak-ank as the community for social programs, has hosted social events, and has been part of our annual fiestas. It is really a big contributor to the community, especially with the revenues and employment it gives to Marikina City."

Marides at The Old Shepherd restaurant, SM City Marikina.

oles'–Marikina's famed homegrown brands

VALENTINO

FIGLIA

MONDEREZ

E SANTIAGO SHOE SHOWJAPS

Fidel Ramos' loafers, Noli de Castro's suede nubucks, the Marcoses' shoes–find them all in this museum

COCINA BY KUSINA NI KAMIAH

ROCHA'S DELICIOUS PUTOAN AND BUTSINTA

LOLA HELEN'S HANDITAHA

Your Mother's Day Beauty Gift Guide from SM

May 8 is Mother's Day and when it comes to splurging on that special gift, nothing is too much for the woman who has given you everything.

The Beauty Section of the SM Department Store has gathered the best in beauty gift ideas for the most important woman in your life. From the most fabulous of fragrances to the creative of cosmetics to age defying products – these gifts will leave your Mom feeling like the queen she truly is.

The Glam Mom

Stylish and sophisticated, the glam mom looks like she's stepped out of a magazine page whether she's just heading to the mall in the day or to a party at night. For Mother's Day, a gift of luxe fragrances and cosmetics will give her that extra dazzle.

The Sporty Mom

Sporty Moms like to stay fit and keep in shape by working out in the gym, taking up the challenges of their favorite sport, or making graceful moves on the dance floor. Give her that beautiful and healthy glow with bath and body products that will make her feel fresh and fab.

The Practical Mom

The practical Mom is a happy homemaker who finds her greatest joy in taking care of her family. She loves staying at home, making sure it is always a beautiful place to live in and there is lots of good food and love for everyone. Make her Mother's Day special with pampering sets she can enjoy in the comfort of her home.

The Career Oriented Mom

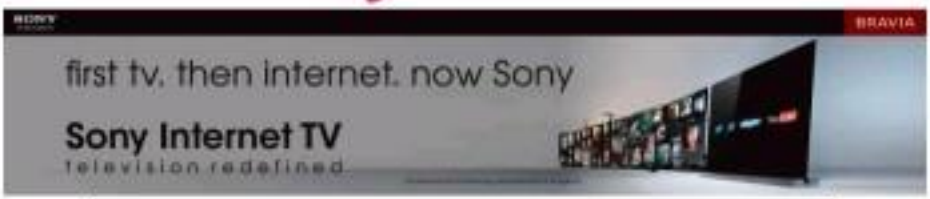
Career oriented Moms are always on the go, doing their best to balance the demands of their top- notch job and growing family. Surprise her with a gift that will pamper her, and restore and rejuvenate her youth, beauty, and energy. Whoever said you can't have it all?

BEAUTY EXCLUSIVES

Check out more of these Mother's Day gift suggestions exclusively at the Beauty Section of SM Department Stores and at selected Watsons stores nationwide.

IN THIS ISSUE
■ Whatever happened to teenage conversation? /A1

Sunday LIFESTYLE Travel



How I found my paradise

In search of 'mi retiro' in Palawan, I found it in Calitang. I call it now 'El Paradiso'

By Tina Rodon
Contributor

WHEN BORACAY was still an oasis, with its pristine waters and white sand, I used to vacation there, bringing with me pen and pad to write and read. Life there was simple, unhurried and unhampered by conveniences and crowds.

It was summer of 1992. I started dreaming of having my own little retreat away from the maddening crowd of Manila. So, the adventure started.

Palawan beckoned, and I succumbed to curiosity. I packed two small bags (I travel light) and a bottle of therapy mind. My mind-set was meandering when I was listening mind instead of provisions. I did not tell my daughter Stella what I was up to, thinking I would surprise her with my "find."

So off I went to Puerto Princesa. I was met by my cousin Emilio, who worked in the laboratory of the American-founded hospital for lepers in Culion island. I was let off by a rickety Air Philippines seven-seater plane in a patch of land covered by gravel in the middle of nowhere. The jeep he was riding chugged through rugged terrain a path cut for carabaos, where branches of small trees swept inside the jeep. How exciting, I thought!

When we got to the town proper, I asked my cousin, "But where are the lepers?" All gone—dead, he said. "Their descendants are all there, totally free from the dreaded disease." The hospital now serves as a general hospital, with pretty good standards, I was told.

There was not much to see in Culion except the beautiful Spanish church perched on a hill and adorned by the most beautiful Palawan cherry tree, dozens of its leaves (an ornament by thousands of white flowers). A heritage town, no doubt. Hundreds of years old (calling attention of the DENR to save this treasure and give it honors).

From Culion, I took a boat; my cousin sent his son to accompany me to Cuyon, Oruz in Cuyo, also, my explore disappointed with many old high-school classmates. Undaunted, I explored the town proper and met the son of the vice mayor, a certain Uy, who offered to show me some property. In the town, we passed by a fish market where they were packing live fish to be transported to Taiwan. I was amazed at the huge fish, some exotic ones, others seemed quite strange. Curious, I asked why and was told in a matter-of-fact tone—they were drugged with cyanide. "But not to worry, they would come to it in time," I was told quite nonchalantly by the fish dealer.

The property I was shown was to out of the way, and when we got there, my guide, the vice mayor's son, proudly announced that my neighbor would be Eraldog Cajesingen, who was farming pearls. And I would be surrounded by his wife-eating gazebo! Where I looked into the seaweed (there was NO beach) in my mind, I saw a yearning watery grave! I told my guide, the last thing I want are armed guards as neighbors, in an isolated, God-forsaken place.

The next day I heard that there were beaches in Old Buenavista, but that I had to circle around the top of the island. I went to the municipal mayor's office and found a woman assistant who was formerly from Old Buenavista, and she was willing to accompany me during her three days' leave. And off we went, by jeepney again, along the way I noticed simple club with vegetable gardens and patches of land planted to pineapple of the Formosa variety, very sweet and juicy, I was told. I also noticed some basket traps they were carrying. I asked what they were for. "To

(WITH POSSIBLE GO)

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One Special Day for Mom

May 8, Sunday, is her day. But we are not second guessing her wish list. M&S knows what her heart desires. So here are a few of our suggestions.

'Plan the day ahead. Make her the queen of the day and give her little fancies she'll be pleased about.'

STUNNING: scenes from my travels

How I found my paradise

From page G1

catch crabs overnight," she said. "You just leave the traps with fish baits, go home and sleep, and the next morning gather the crabs, live and cleaning in the traps."

Old Bantayan

We reached Old Bantayan, but my companion could not find anyone from her family. They had all gone and migrated to either Puerto Princesa or Manila. Not again! I thought... excellence to stay. Until we came upon an old lady who knew my companion's relatives, and she offered to take us to her house. She was a grandmother and had a little grandson she looked after.

The beach was wider, at least our husband version wider, slowly sloping into the sea, the sand was finer than just sand at sea grey. I saw a lizard, quite big, crossed on the beach. Again, curious, I asked what they were doing on the beach, for it did not seem like a passenger boat. They were from Batangas, smuggling foreign cigarettes to transport to Malabon commercial fish parade. One learns, I thought, by asking questions.

So Old Bantayan was useless all my search list.

And the next day, I took a passenger boat to Tayjay, resigned to return to Puerto Princesa. I was ready to give up on my quixotic fantasies. Only to say are of dance can illusions come alive, albeit for short moments on stage.

To Tayjay

From Coron to Tayjay was a revealing ride, sailing through turquoise waters, seeing some really marvelous private resorts (owned by Manila tycoons, we were told). When we arrived in Tayjay, it was getting dark. I ordered many small boats coming up to the beach. El passenger boat. The pulpousie took one large, but it seemed ages before they could unload everything. I was tired and impatient by then, and decided to jump into the water, like I would do from the boat in Boracay. I did not hear the driver as I disappeared from view. I went down very fast, out of sight and realized I was many meters down into the water, when a lieutenant grabbed me and towed me up, gasping for air and dripping wet, and, yes, bright, vexed, because I am a poor swimmer.

Unmindful of my drooping image, I asked how I could get a ride to the town proper and find a guest house. It was a long trail until a lone tricycle came along, and took me to a guest house called [illegible]. [illegible] "Hidden Paradise." Like a pebble house of ill-repute, I thought. To my surprise, it was a very decent place, clean, with room (not small, when looked at our cabanas because I was dripping wet). They gave me a private room for the night, and the next day the staff suggested that I should go to El Nido where it is not too far from Tayjay.

To El Nido, I thought, "but that is between places", and a fourth property must be rejected, out of touch for an exile like me." But, I must have curious, as I decided to go. Also, the boats from Tayjay to El Nido were assigned fixed days. And the Wednesday boat was being repaired, so we were told, and local logistics could allow any other "short" boat to take its place. So, with other passengers (we were only a few women), I was left stranded, until I noticed a private boat, more like a little speed yacht, in a little wharf.

Curious, I approached a man who looked like the "captain" and asked if they were going towards El Nido for mail pox. I asked if I could join them, he said yes, again. He was just waiting for a few people who had contracted his boat. As soon as I set foot on to the "yacht," the other stranded ladies waiting on the beach clambered up into the boat, to the surprise of the "captain," who did not have the heart to protest.

Not long after, we arrived at a place, and this was as far as the "yacht" was going. The place had a meager existing name... "Linisangdang."

Now, what to do? It was an expensive, tiny little village with a little market. Surprisingly it boasted of a guest house called [illegible] Beachfun, "Living the Life While You," give us an excellent definition of vacation orientation.

"Frederick Buechner, in his book, 'Wishful Thinking: A Theological ABC,' reminds us that there are many voices calling us what we 'should' be doing, and the problem is to find out which voice is the voice of God rather than the voice of mockery or self-interest. He then says that the kind of work that God calls you to is the kind of work that [a] you covet most to do, and [b] that the world most needs to have done. What I want you to remember are his words, 'The place where God calls you is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet.'"

Perhaps today is a good moment for us to ask ourselves how much we are living this life...a life we are passionate about and a life that gives us joy; a life that makes us more loving persons.

Predicament

In 1998, Joe graduated from Harvard, magna cum laude, coming second in his [illegible] class, if I remember correctly. Right before his graduation he called me several times in my office. When I returned his call he told me his predicament.

He had been accepted to Duke medical school (he took the enrollment track), which was three months third in the US, and he was also accepted to Oregon Health and Science University medical school, ranked around 20th. So he had done four years earlier, he gave all the pressed coins. He then said, "I had prayed letters for both schools and they are now in front of me."

I told him: "Okay, Joe, you've already written into your mind. Scientific what is in your heart." Then I talked about his last chance: to choose a doctor and starts his own family, etc. After he poured out what was in his heart, I told him, "For, let's pray letter to Duke and throw it in the trash can. You know where you want to go."

"Father, whatever makes me a more loving person..." Is this not what we want over the younger generation of [illegible]? To provide them with the spiritual and environment, the education and formation, the opportunity to allow them to become loving persons and then discover what their [illegible] is...their passion, their "deep gladness that carries a "deep hunger" in the world.

"So for Father has sent me, as I see you."

Today, these words from the Gospel of John remind us that we are missionaries, remind us to be more very Jesus. Paul's visit 18 years ago reminded us that our mission is "tell the world of His love."

Our primary task as parents, mentors—love the youth into excellence

By Fr. Tito Caluag
Contributor

OVER 10 years ago, I resumed my work with high school students. I had spent almost a year and an half finishing my master's degree in educational administration before assuming my post as principal. My first love was...still is...teaching, and when I was tasked for administrative work I had to accept that I would not remain in the classroom as a teacher. This acceptance helped me under the worst cut of my fear for studies. I spent much time reading, writing, reflecting and praying as my preparation for my job.

When I came back from studies in early January 1998, I told my family in my very first meeting with them that my most important learning in preparing for my job was realizing that the most important task of a principal is to love his teachers more than love, because his teachers are the ones who will love the students into excellence.

To this day, more than ever, I believe this is one of the most...if not the most...important tasks of a principal or a leader, in general.

Message

I learned this from a student, Joe Lynch, I worked with during my tenure as principal of Jesuit High School Portland (Oregon). Joe graduated as one of the valedictorians in his batch, III 1998. The following school year, he went to Harvard on a full scholarship, including room and allowance. Aside from his good grades, he was also recruited for the football and American football team of Harvard.

September of 1998, Joe visited me in New York one weekend. I was staying at the Lasalle Center downtown of Fordham University. I picked him up from the bus terminal. We dropped off his bag in my dorm and we took a walk on the west side of Central Park.

As we were walking, he was sharing with me his plans to pursue a career in...law in medicine or law. After the usual for pros and cons of both possibilities, he paused and told me: "Well, I guess, it doesn't really matter where I'll end up in. I can live in a farm, for all I care, as long as I have a good and happy family."

He took kept quiet and continued to walk. Then in the normal silence we shared in the long noisy streets of New York, he added, "Father, whatever makes me a more loving person..."

It was that moment that crystallized for me my own philosophy of education...loving my students into excellence. This was the goal of basic education, loving them into excellence that they can become loving persons.

The words I treasured in 1998, was the words Pope John Paul II came to Manila for World Youth Day. I remember the billboard and posters that filled Manila then with the words from the Gospel of John: "Be the Salve has sent me, so I send you."

It was a message to the youth. It was a message to me recently.

John Paul II's reminder

Today is John Paul's beatification, and today we hear these words again in the Gospel for the Second Sunday of Easter. These words remind us of our mission; that the meaning of our life is in discovering our mission.

It is a reminder to all of us that our primary task in life is to discover our mission, and for us who are tasked to enhance and love our youth...parents, teachers...our primary service is there is to help them discover their passion and their mission in life.

These words from a homily of Elias

And, by doing so, allow them to become loving persons–with a 'deep gladness' that meets a 'deep hunger' in our world

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WITH my cousin Jan Dagdag's kids, my daughter Bella, extreme left, and Glenn on the beach

"Cannes ka ba," quite well, appraised, with a good, close and spacious restaurant.

Really!

In a nutshell is: I met a young girl of around 16, and I asked her if she happened to know if there was a passenger van from Ivana Inn to Kiltro. She said: "Oooo, but we have a boat and we are going to Kiltro in a little my sister. Ride. Are you sure it's boat na, but if ride her if you may come with us."

In the boat, the owner, a big burnay, untrained woman, asked me in a most unfriendly manner. I made it clear her daughter did not explain my presence. The 30 sharp eyes of the others sailed, and I swear, then the woman in navy blue, in between jabbing and exclaiming would ask me questions, jabbing and exclaiming would ask me questions, jabbing and exclaiming would ask me questions,

Blessed John Paul II as the 'Mercy Pope'

PURELY PERSONAL

Josephine Barcong

THE BEATIFICATION today of Pope John Paul II in Rome fits the Easter celebration. Attending is Msgr. Emerson Odon, purchaser of the Pope's vestments for beatification. John Paul II was "a man who lived in the presence of God, who let himself be guided by the Holy Spirit, who was in constant dialogue with the Lord, and who built his whole life around the question [asked to Peter]: 'Do you love me?'"

His beatification is special to devotees of the Divine Mercy because he was the "Mercy Pope."

When Karol Wojtyla became archbishop of Krakow, he lifted the ban on the devotion to the Divine Mercy in April 1979 and allowed the reading of the formerly banned diary of Sister Faustina Kowalska (especially the Diaries of St. Faustina). When he became Pope, John Paul II beatified Faustina. Kowalska on April 18, and canonized her on April 30, 2000.

A priest named 'John Paul'

Fr. John Paul Mary Villanueva, MI, MS told us during a retreat at the Betania Retreat House in Pansol, Laguna, that Pope John was therefore called the "Mercy Pope." Accompanied was by the holiness of the Pope that he adopted his name when he entered the Carthusian order in 1965. Fr. JP's real name is Fernando.

Papal canonization

Arjenes de Manila professor Bobby Lopez was able to receive Holy Communion from Pope John Paul on March 1, 2000. Adobo Star, where his boss, then First Lady Lei Estrada, invited him to join her delegation to Rome for the beatification of Visayan martyr Pedro Calungsod and other Asian martyrs.

"Our delegation was given seats very near the Pope at Mass," Lopez said. "Ma'am Lei asked me to represent the Pinoys in receiving Communion from the Pope at the beatification Mass because the delegation was making a separate audience after the Mass, which meant I was not to be included anymore."

"Without hesitation, I accepted and was blessed to receive Communion from HHJ. I remembered his shaking hands (because of the pope's Parkinson's). It was a very wonderful moment of my life. I have always been devoted to the cause for sainthood of HHJ and I continue to sense that he intercedes for us Pinoys, whom he loves so dearly."

Former RW commissioner Jose U. Ong, who was given the Papal Award: Knight of St. Gregory in 1993 by John Paul II, is very happy that he is going to be beatified.

New Cavite parish

Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Gen. Trias, Cavite, is now a parish church. It was canonically erected last April 16.

Imus Bishop Chito Tagle officiated in the Consolidated Mass of 20 priests in the presence of 3,000 devotees. The church was built by businessman Gene de los Reyes in fulfillment of a promise he made to the Virgin of Guadalupe 23 years ago that he would build her a church in thanksgiving for the successful heart surgery of his daughter (who was four-months-old then).

Santa Ana, Manila feast

"Handaguan" is a religious, cultural celebration in which the people of Santa Ana, Manila, make floral offerings to their town's patroness, Our Lady of the Abandoned (Ina ng Walang Mag-Ampon) on the occasion of her feast on May 12.

Traditionally held on May 1 at five in the afternoon, it marks the start of the Novena of Masses. This year's floral offerings will come in the form of floral tapestries that will be placed at the foot of the Virgin.

"Handaguan" precedes the National Consecration for Cultural and the 8th SWIDE-sponsored Mini Carnada on the first day of the Novena at 8:30 in the evening.

The concelebrated Eucharistic celebration will be in Filipino with Ivatan in Latin and Spanish, just like in the olden days. The Santo Domingo Chorale and the Tejido de Santo Domingo ensemble led by Eugene de los Santos will sing.

St. Joseph's feast

"Tres Dona" is the affection we name that the people in Las Piñas give their patron, St. Joseph the Patient, whose image is enthroned in the St. Joseph Church, more popularly known for its famous bamboo organ.

Novena Masses are now ongoing until May 1, after which the fiesta will be celebrated on May 6. Msgr. Albert Nemar, head of the parish church and who recently marked 25 years as a priest, will lead in the celebration.

I was very touched and impressed with Msgr. Nemar' Thanksgiving Mass at the St. Joseph Academy Hall. The Mass was celebrated by 53 priests, as well as by Bishops Jose Mendoza, Gabriel Reyes, Teodoro Bacani and Joe Advincula (who had come all the way from Negros Oriental!). The monsignor's parents, Dr. Erlberto and Alita Nemar, were there, and happiness shone in their eyes.

Msgr. Nemar also invited the "special children" under the banners of Charity in Crossroads Dancing Stars, Kindling Sons in Quezon City (921-1849). He called them his special treasures. The choir was headed by Edward Luna.

IMUS Bishop Chito Tagle installs Fr. Raul Cardaños, parish priest of our Lady of Guadalupe Church, in Gen. Trias, Cavite. At left, Msgr. Albert Nemar, main author

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Bonsai master's visit is highlight of bonsai and suiseki show

A BONSAI and suiseki show will be held May 6-8 at SM City Quirino Highway, Novaliches, Quezon City. Titled "Camarinderia 'Ibon Inosan,'" the exhibition are from the members of the Kapampangan Federation of Bonsai and Suiseki Society, Inc., Bonsai Club, Harvest Tropic Bonsai Society, ISP Bonsai Club, Batangas Bonsai Society, Bulacan Bonsai Society and Iriseki Club, Bonsai Enthusiasts of Northern Luzon, and various collectors from Tarlac, Manila, Manila, Mindoro and Laguna, among others.

Bonsai is the art of dwarfing trees, cultivated by man in pots, that can live for thousands of years, while Suiseki is a name with oriental or rare art as designated by nature.

Invited guest of honor is Master Lu "Bong-Hong Iwin Taiwan National Bonsai Association, who will also highlight the show with a demonstration and workshop on May 7 at 2 p.m. The three-day exhibit, which will be open to the public is organized by the Bonsai and Suiseki Alliance of the Philippines, Inc. (BSAPI) headed by Leily Ligan, the Cuenca and Secretary Society headed by Dixie C. Bernabe, Bonsai icon Mody Mangahinot, Philippine Bonsai Society founder and Bulacan president Benjamin S. Murillo, David Du, Dr. Elmer Villareal and Mr. de Rosa.

TWIN trunk Banyuga bonsai owned by Michael Santiago, on exhibit at the "Camarinderia 'Ibon Inosan'" show

ALAY Tanang, Irwin Santos, show adviser Fe de Rosa, chair chair Michael Santiago, co-chair Gonty Luna, Boy Dungaran, Charlie Miranda, Vincent Valera, (seated) Rosa de Rosa and Didith Luna

'Take and Receive' book launch

THE MISSIONARY Catechists of the Sacred Heart will celebrate its 40th anniversary with the launch of the book "Take and Receive" today, May 1, at the MCSH Mother House in City Park Subdivision in Barangay Bitung, Lipa City. The book, written by Eldrid S. Bonita, chronicles the life of its founder, Mother Laura L. Mendoza, and the rich history of her congregation. A thanksgiving consecration Mass with main celebrant, Msgr. Rafael Ortendo, follows.

Flores de Mayo today

Greetings to the Congregacion del Santissimo Nombre del Niño Jesus on the "Flores de Mayo" event today at 4 p.m. at the SM Mall of Asia.

Endower is a sponsor of the religious parade, in which Marcelo's top fashion designers are dressing up the angels.

Sunday LIFESTYLE

Whatever happened to teenage conversation?

By Carmencita S. Siscon
Lifestyle Reporter

As I got an earful of 'oh-my-God,' 'like,' 'so' and 'it's, like, so,' I couldn't help but wonder where these ladies were getting their lessons in Grammar 101

ON MY day was turning out to be a good one, I decided to cap it off by doing some reading in the library of the country club I frequent. I was sitting cozy on a lush sofa with my book in hand when I heard some girls yapping about the latest "bestie" in their circle.

Normally I would find this annoying, but as the sentences were filled with the words "like" and "so," with marvelous twang and prolonged syllables, I couldn't help but raise a knowing eyebrow. By the end of their conversation, I already knew everything about their love lives, but the manner in which they were conversing was another eyebrow-raising matter. This lasted for about an hour, and felt like eternity.

As I got an earful of "oh-my-God," "like," "so" and "it's, like, so," I couldn't help but wonder where these ladies were getting their lessons in Grammar 101. Having studied in a private all-girls school, I sure know what it's like to be surrounded by boisterous girls 10 hours every day, five days a week, for 11 years. But contrary to popular belief, not all of us speak in a way that would remind you of Cher Horowitz, as played by Alicia Silverstone in "Clueless."

At one point, one of the girls, dressed in a trend-minimalist-and-trilark fad, was conversing with girls seated at the other end of the room, and each time, while twirling her tresses, referred to the restroom as the "powder room." "Take note: We were in the library. And does anyone still say 'powder room'?

Then the conversation turned to a discussion of Bradley Cooper's "hotness." Yes, I would have enthusiastically joined that conversation, too, but obscuring at the top of my lungs, perhaps in my syllables, and making my sentences revolve around two unnecessary words would prove to be a tongue-twister.

Not quite eavesdropping

With all the commotion, needless to say I couldn't understand a single sentence in my book, and was just staring blankly as it I found myself in quite a conundrum. I shouldn't have been eavesdropping, but it's not really eavesdropping if their voices are loud enough for those in the next room to hear, right? Thankfully, those thoughts were silenced when, one by one, the tweens filed out of the library still yapping.

So I decided to finally get some reading done. I couldn't help but think about how I would knock some sense into those girls, and I reminisced on the days when watching TV, drawing off in the small, loud group-ing like there was no tomorrow seemed the norm.

Perhaps, if they spent more time reading so-mmeyone books, listening to class instead of talking about the latest gossip, and finding out what they're passionate about instead of gradually passionately describing some guy's name, they'd be motivated to do awe-kwhile things and finally have enough of this lockdrama.

After a lot of cringing, I found comfort in reminding myself that I was their age once, and hopefully, when the frontrunner kick in, good grammar would, as well. For now, I'm shaking it off and sticking to my book.

HILDA Arambulo, Car Arambulo-Antonio, Carlo Antonio, Joey Antonio

CAT Arambulo-Antonio, Carlo Bayot Antonio, Danielle A. Bayot and Hugo

ANTONIO-ARAMBULO NUPTIALS

Back to where it all began

Carlo Antonio and Car Arambulo return to Bellaroca, where they first became a couple, for their three-day wedding celebration

MARCH 25, 2011, was the day when the stars aligned for two people in love. For newlyweds Carlo Antonio and Car Arambulo, there was no better place to say their "I dos" than in the same place where they formed an inimitable bond as a couple—the breathtaking resort of Bellaroca in Mactan.

The couple's love for the beach was one of the many things that brought them together. On Sept. 25 of the previous year, Carlo made special arrangements for their trip to the St. Regis Resort in Bali.

They were met with an array of activities—snorkeling, kayaking and fly fishing, followed by relaxing hamilo massages at Ayana Spa. Unbeknownst to Car, Carlo was simply setting up the surprise for his girlfriend of two years.

Upon the couple's return to their villa, Carlo surprised Car with a series of books entitled "Guess How Much I Love You," and told her to get ready for an early dinner. At 5:30 p.m., a driver in a gleaming white Mercedes arrived to fetch the couple. Carlo gave his girlfriend a box-span of flowers and, on their way to dinner, another surprise came in the form of "I love you eternally" in the sand, written in white rose petals.

A small entrance surrounded with water scenes met their eyes, and it was then that Car realized what was standing before her—the St. Regis Good Vibes Chapel. A private dinner for two has been waiting for them, and the romantic evening was set with a pianist playing a rendition of Bruno Mars' "Just the Way You Are"—Carlo's song for Car.

Car scrumptiously savored the shaped. Carlo then pulled her gently aside, eyes welling up as he got down on one knee which a beautiful engagement ring sent proposed. As the sun had begun to set, Car knew this was the man she wanted to share her life with, and tearfully said, "Of course! Of course I'll marry you."

It was in Bellaroca that the couple spent their first Valentine's Day and of most trip together. And when the time came to plan the wedding, it was the only venue they wanted.

CELINE Arambulo, Car Arambulo-Antonio, Christine Arambulo-Santillana

JACKIE Antonio, Celine Lopez, Car Arambulo-Antonio, Hugo, Regine King, Lisa Rondon

PATTY Arambulo and Carlo Antonio

EDU LRAH Villaluerna, Buddy Zamora, Lars Villaluerna, Joey Antonio

CARLO Antonio, Car Arambulo-Antonio, Jacquien Dupasquier

TWINGIE Fernandez, Gino Pano, Jess Fernandez, Beep Yapinchay, Nicky Santos, Mervin Pino

Private planes, yachts

The three-day event welcomed close to 90 guests who arrived via the island in private planes, chartered flights, helicopters and private yachts. They were greeted by the resort staff wearing CRC immigration shirts, a traditional welcome performance, Mactanhopia delicacies and refreshments, and cold towels. Everyone was surprised to hear the couple's voice greeting them in the counter, followed by a handpicked playlist of the couple's favorite songs.

Upon arrival, each guest had welcome kits with hand-written notes from the couple. The welcome kit consisted of a "Bellaroca Survivors," scented candles, and a shot box with condoms.

A pre-wedding dinner was set up by the production team, headed by Robert Manzuflor, for friends and family, where well-wishers gave heartfelt speeches for the lovely couple.

As the cool of early evening parsis received more personalized notes from the bride and groom laced with memorable quotes, wishing them a good night's sleep for the exciting day ahead.

On the big day the bride gracefully emerged in a stunning Jess Escaño gown, her hair styled by Felicity Ison of Girl's and made up by Pong Nio of Mac Cosmetics.

Members of the entourage were equally resplendent in their dresses designed by Mitzi Dingleson, adorned with accessories by Michel Papa, makeup by Inks of Makeup Forever, and shoes by Windy Tantoco. Junior bridesmaid and the couple's daughter Danielle also wore an outfit by Jess Escaño, along with the cute beanie and flower girls.

It was a solemn and touching scene as the couple was in tears throughout the ceremony, said the guests except with emotion when very personal vows were shared.

The wedding reception that followed included special performances by the couple's fathers, the couple, and their daughter. The bride and her father, Saul Ocadiz Arambulo, danced to "The Way You Look Tonight," leaving the bride's mother, Patricia Tagatac-hay Arambulo, with tears of joy.

Carlo, Car and Danielle groaned in Black Eyed Peas' "Time of Your Life," and the groom's father, Jose E. E. Antonio, performed a special medley for the evening, to the delight of Hilda Reyes Antonio. Dreh Cheng provided the beautifully created wedding cake, while Pat Uy captured striking photos of the ceremony. Jason Magbanua videotaped the momentous occasion.

The night was capped with a memorable performance by the couple's favorite band by-the-sea Down.

On Saturday, the couple woke up early for brunch to send off all their guests. Asked where their honeymoon would be, Car said, "That's just another one of Carlo's special surprises!"

NICK Gokon, Car Arambulo-Antonio, Carlo Antonio, Vice Mayor Ryan Singson, Patch Singson, Kyla Cuneta

JACQUIE Antonio, Bobbie Antonio, Sam Sidhu, Carlo Antonio, Paolo Campos, Francis Escobedo, Marco Antonio

CAT Arambulo-Antonio, Carlo Antonio, Marco Antonio, Jackie Antonio, Chet Cuneta, Marcel Crespo

DENISE Tagatac-hay Danielle A. Bayot-Jacinto] Tagatac-hay Celine Arambulo, Christine Arambulo-Santillana, Car Arambulo-Antonio, Carlo Antonio, Paul Santillana, Dixie Villasoria

What should she do with her cyberspace 'Romeo'?

EMELY'S POST

Emily A. Manzo

DEAR EMILY,

I am a cyberspace fanatic—a 23-year-old female nurse who never had a boyfriend.

I met this 27-year-old California guy online a year ago and I think I'm smitten by him—his sense of humor, theatrical ideas, wit and common good sense. Early on, we would just talk about some light stuff. Later on, we got carried away and started talking and sharing aspects of our personal life.

He shared with me his dreams for the future, while I felt he cared about me because he'd ask about my friends and my work, too. I cannot concentrate and take my work seriously because I find myself thinking of him and this thing between us.

He is learning to become a pilot, and due to this, our chats have not been consistent anymore. I am confused as to how I should handle this scenario. I get jealous, sad, lonely every time he cannot come online. My friends say it's only an infatuation I'm feeling, but it's strong. He tempted me to flirt him with his intentions.

Should I stop communicating with him knowing this thing between us will eventually fade away?

SEE

Your predicament has all the trappings of a cowboy-and-nurse.

What is this "thing" between you two you are talking about? To an outsider like me, you were just having conversation. It is natural that when two people talk constantly and frequently, they eventually run out of topics to talk about—which was what happened.

At the height of your feverish high-tech communication, you both tried to grasp at anything thought, be it about friends and family, and started sweeping stories about them just to keep the conversation running or fetching more. That doesn't become a "thing" to make you conclude you're in a relationship. You are were just spinning empty yarns—nothing else.

And now that your communication with him dried up, he has either "vanished" to attend to their grim emotions about his pilot training or whatever "heavy-mind" he is purportedly involved in. If he truly liked you and wasn't talking to you, nothing—no amount of pilot training or travelling or anything else—can keep him away from the phone or the computer, just to reach you. As they say, wild horses couldn't keep him away from you!

Stop this nonsense of having a "thing" with him. You have had and enjoyed enough of everything he said as being sweet. He could have read you the phonebook and they would have still oozed with emotions in your ears! Your friends were right all along. You were infatuated. Period. What ever else you concluded wasn't normal.

Meanwhile, you're only 23, and jumping from your letter, just getting out of your teenage cocoon? You're jesting! Much too young to be playing with seasoned and savvy scorpions "Romeos."

Give yourself time to mature. Wait for your mind to gain enough wisdom to learn how strangers outside can cyberspace throw a callousable spell all to the moon.

That will take some time—and you have plenty to spare.

E-mail the author at emsworld@gmail.com, fb.com/dr.emilymanzo and Twitter @drmanzo

COMMUNION: Doom Miraflor kisses his bride, Amaya Rosario.

THE MIRAFLOR family: Vic Miraflor, Lisa Miraflor, Dr. Aurora Miraflor, Nicole Bolteus, Edward Bolteus, Tina Bolteus, bride and groom, Cynthia Miraflor, Arthur Miraflor, John Miraflor, Fiona Dionisio, Francis Miraflor, Mark Miraflor, the kids, Migs Bolteus, Tyler Miraflor, Robbie Miraflor, Alyssa Miraflor and Hailey Miraflor

ENGAGED: Alden Dr. Gaudy Dogoso, Amaya, Maricel Lopez-Elizondo and Judy Perez

13 years after their civil marriage, Commander and Mrs. Doom Miraflor finally had a beautiful church wedding by the sea

THE BRIDE'S immediate family: Nicole Rosario, Michelle Rosario, Carmen Dimamorin, Dr. Sonia Rosario, Mudercia Schwartz-Rosario, the couple, Dr. Mariano Franco Rosario, Dr. Kerwin Rosario, Mr. Teodito Rosario and flowergirls Gabriel Tyler Miraflor and Xavier Andrew Rosario

CHAPEL at Hidden Bay Resort

STANDING: Carlos Bernal, the couple, Jean Soriano, Susan Frank Sison, George Wu, Sen. TG Guingona III, Senator Sharmaine Guingona, Dennis Acosta, Lt. Aries Carreon

JOINING: Sen. Sonia Pulido Escudero, Amy Brogan-Bagan, Carmen Brogan, Bernardo Columbia, Angelica Barrera, Noreen Perez-Jaymalin and Elmer Jaymalin

MIRAFLOR-ROSARIO NUPTIALS

Better late than never for Navy officer and his lady

By Josephine Dereng

SEN. MANNA Rosario and Commander Doom Aquilino Miraflor of the Philippine Navy are not your ordinary couple. They first got married before a judge 13 years ago. Recently, they still chose to exchange marital vows with each other, but in a more romantic way.

On Dec. 30, 2010, Doom and Amaya were married before Fr. Eugene Castillo, a military chaplain, in the chapel of Mivela Bay Resort on the island of Cagbalete in Mulanay. It was Doom and Iwas everybelated.

I asked the bride's dearest friend, Billy Rosero, how love can last that long, and how the couple still wanted to marry each other.

"Sarayan is the word that comes Doom's duty, while Doom is the steady anchor that has kept this union strong and steady through rough and calm seas," Billy said.

Billy, an events specialist, planned the wedding. It was as vivacious as the name for the reception. The menu was also meticulously planned by Sena Cortes. Muslin Bay F & B Manager, who was previously with the Makatian Hotel in Manila. Billy also prepared the floral arrangements for the ceremony of the couple.

Cindy Cielo Laguna, the bridegroom's best man, and Judy Perez were the witnesses. Cassidy Bishop presided the bride, Senni Hewett was the matron of honor.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist was participated in by the couple's closest friends in his family, Fr. Castillo said. "True love for each other reflects God's love because of your faithfulness towards each other."

The newlyweds' parents, James and Cynthia Miraflor and Marianne Echaveria Rosario, were there to witness the fruitment of love between Amaya's dad Rodolfo "Rudy" Rosario Jr. He had passed away years before. Principal sponsors included Sen. Teofisto Guingona III.

Doom belongs to Class '92 of the Philippine Military Academy. He trained for the Special Warfare Unit of the Philippine Navy and was the commanding officer of the SEAL team in Jolo before he was transferred to Cebu, where he met Amaya, ironically a Bicolana from Tabaco, Albay.

Amaya recalls the day they met on the tarmac of the Cebu International Airport, Sep. 19, 1995. A friend of Amaya's who happened to be the wife of Doom's approximate brother let on a trip in Cebu. Doom and the "mission" met there at the airport. He was then the commanding officer of the SEAL Team 8 assigned in Cebu.

Amaya never supposed that she would meet her future husband. All of a sudden, they were shooting hoops on the playtime.

"I was 22, he was 28," she recalls. "I knew, though, that I wanted to be with him all the time, but the prospect of starting a family was a bit too scary for me at that time, so we waited." They went out a half years. Doom and Amaya married civilly before a judge at the Pasig Regional Trial Court.

They had always planned to have a church wedding, but they had issues on smaller and other matters. Amaya's promise: Amaya recalls how Doom surprised her six day coming home for a break.

"He asked me how a 10-10-10 month wedding would appeal to me. We going down on his knees, no rings, after all, I have been wearing his rings for 13 years, and I have never taken them off. And I got excited. The date was perfect. And I have always wanted to get the blessing of the Church."

It seems to was that Amaya and Doom said their wanted years, as the one was noting in a hurry. Ind resort in Boni...is a relaxation a hill facing the Sibuti's ocean.

Milestones

We welcome announcements of weddings and engagements. Submit names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, and guest designer along with a photo of the couple and a sketch of the bridal gown, if any, to the features PO Box 2332 Makati Central Post Office 1260 Makati City. E-mail to lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph. A photo of the bride and groom is required if the wedding has already taken place. Announcements will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the senders.

BAGA GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

Napoleon "Nap" and Erminnelia "Ted" Baga celebrated their 50th anniversary last April 23. Reception was held at the Country Suite, Jade Valley Restaurant, QC. Ted is an active member of the Catholic Women's League, while Nap serves as a lay minister at the Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Parish, Mayapa, Valenzuela City. The couple has four children, Marnie and Montilio Hajilla, Mary Elaine and Rei Molina, Peter and Rose Florence, and Vangie and Marc Anthony Reyes, and 10 grandchildren Charlene, Camille, Gabriel, Shania, Montana, JC, Jerome, Rap-Rap, Bhart and Rhed.

QUIAMBAO DEBUT

Annamillia Dominique Reyes Quiambao, daughter of Raul and Cecilia Quiambao, recently celebrated her 18th birthday at the SMC Polo, Tagaig. The celebration was geared by her family, relatives, and close friends. Sam has just graduated from high school at De La Salle Santiago Zobel.

TAMAI-LIVEZO

Ronna Livezo, daughter of Imogen and Teodulo Livezo and Takeshi Tamai, son of Toru and Kazuko Tamai from Tokyo, Japan tied knot in a Christian wed dingcites at the Tejero Garden, Island Cove Hotel and Leisure Park, Binakayan, Kawit, Cavite. A grand reception was held at the Binakayan Ballroom of Island Cove Hotel and Leisure Park. The romantic contemporary Filipiniana inspired event was coordinated by event specialist Alec Santos of Events Plus.

The bride wore an ivory satin ballgown gown made of tulle silk highlighted by beaded crystal embellishments on the bodice and a beaded headpiece skirt.

SAN-SEBIANO

Bryan Vincent Sia and Bride Soriano Tan wed last March 5 at Plank Plank Golf and Country Club.

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SUPERMALLS

HAPPINESS MEANS THANKING MOM ON MOTHER'S DAY

Treat mom to the greatest Mother's Day party at SM Supermalls

She's the woman who knows us inside and out. The one person in the world who loves and accepts us no matter the cost, no matter what. She is that one person who gave us the best present imaginable – the gift of life. It's time we paid tribute to her, kept her happy and honored her in the most meaningful way possible. Treat her to a day of full-on pampering only at SM Supermalls.

Thanksgiving Mass for Mothers

What better way to kick off this special day than with a special Thanksgiving mass for mom? Priests will be on hand to dispense special blessings to our own personal super woman. Be there when we say thanks in the sweetest way we know how – with flowers.

May 8	SM Center Muntinlupa SM Center Valenzuela, SM City Baguio SM City Cagayan de Oro, SM City Cebu SM City Clark, SM City Dasmariñas SM City Iloilo, SM City Lipa SM City Lucena, SM City Marikina SM City Marilao, SM City Pampanga SM City Taytay

Mommy's Fair

Still looking for a gift worthy of the most special woman in your life? Check out selling booths that offer the best gift items for mommy. Find everything from flowers, crafts to other items that will certainly put a smile on mom's face.

May 1-6	SM City Manila
May 5-10	SM City Cebu

Moms on the Ramp

Moms prove to the world that they still have it as they conquer the catwalk to show off the season's hottest fashion trends. As real as they come, these full-figured moms will be modeling chic and sexy short-sized threads. SM Department Store and other SM Supermalls tenants will sponsor this one-of-a-kind fashion show.

May 7	SM City Dark
May 8	SM Center Muntinlupa SM City Batangas, SM City Calamba SM City Dasmariñas, SM City Davao SM City Iloilo, SM City Marikina SM City Pampanga, SM City Rosario

Health and Beauty Nook

It's mom's turn to be pampered. We've set up stations that serve up different health and beauty offerings for women. Your favorite woman in the world is treated like a queen for a day with beauty treatments, make overs, facial massages, health and derma consultations and a whole lot more.

May 1-6	SM City Manila
May 3-6	SM Center Las Piñas
May 3-8	SM Center Valenzuela SM City Bacoor SM City Cagayan De Oro SM City Dasmariñas SM City Iloilo, SM City Marikina
May 6-8	SM City Bacolod, SM City Clark SM City Sta. Rosa
May 7	SM City Calamba, SM City Rosario SM City Taytay
May 7-8	SM City Baguio, SM City Pampanga
May 8	SM City Davao, SM City Lipa SM City Lucena

Moms Got Talent

Moms belt it out in this exciting performance. Other celebrity moms will be joining in as they display their extraordinary talent by creating beautiful music with songs and different musical instruments.

May 7	SM Center Las Piñas SM City Marilao, SM City Lipa
May 8	SM Center Valenzuela SM City Baguio, SM City Batangas SM City Cagayan De Oro SM City Calamba, SM City Cebu SM City Dasmariñas, SM City Lucena SM City San Pablo, SM City Sta. Rosa
May 15	SM City Bacoor

Photo-op Area

Give mom a special memento of this day. Herd the whole family to the photo-op area and have souvenir shots taken. There is no mistaking that it's for no one else but for mommy with its giant "MOM" backdrop accented with flowers and other cool design elements. There's no better place to capture that picture perfect moment with mom.

May 1-8	SM City Manila
May 2-8	SM Center Valenzuela SM City Calamba, SM City Dasmariñas SM City Pampanga, SM City Sta. Rosa
May 6-8	SM City Bacoor, SM City Clark SM City Iloilo, SM City Lucena SM City Sta. Rosa

Mother's Day is something we should celebrate everyday but this is one day out of the year that we should dedicate and devote to mom. It's the least we can do for all she has done for us. Make her feel loved and appreciated with the best line up of Mother's Day activities only at SM Supermalls.

For inquiries: call (02) 470-2222; text 0905-4666472* or visit www.smsupermalls.com

IN THIS ISSUE
■ Kate's wedding dress– Grace Kelly-inspired, Sarah Burton-designed /C2

Sunday LIFESTYLE

Growing up with the music of Andrew Lloyd Webber

"THE MUSIC of Andrew Lloyd Webber" showcases snippets of the maestro's best works

An opulent revue of songs from 14 much-loved musical productions by the famed British composer goes onstage at the CCP in June

By Arnelle S. Tayao

THE FIRST Andrew Lloyd Webber musical I saw live was "Starlight Express" in London's West End. I was 10, and his singing, dancing, roller-skating trains were rock stars in my eyes. My sister and I were so hooked that we easily memorized the songs. We would stage our own "Starlight" at home, skidding across the living room floor in our socks, singing our hearts out while pretending to be the trains.

We outgrew the skidding, but definitely not the music. I became a Webber fan because of his songs, even without seeing all of his plays. With one song, I was in a haunted Paris opera house, or wandering the lion dunes lands of Jerusalem, or even strolling down that glamorous street of dreams, Sunset Boulevard.

It's the musical journey that Manila audiences can expect some June and July, when "The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber," a season of the maestro's love works, is staged at the Cultural Center of the Philippines. The Inscendon production features songs from 14 much-loved Webber productions.

"It's a highlight of [Andrew Lloyd Webber's] works. These are snippets, showing you the breadth and scope of his work," says Simone Gordon, Landlord Theatrical Productions Ltd. executive producer for Australia and New Zealand. "It's so exciting to put all of these shows into one."

Since it is a concert, the show's theatrics is toned down. Do not expect elaborate makeup and costumes, or any complicated set design; there is no choreography, but a simple version of what one would normally see in the actual plays.

Powerful voices

The magic of the show lies in the powerful voices of its eight cast members, who sing all of the 30 songs. Michael Cormick, Shane Bennie, Sarah Lancaster, Blair Ramsey, Delta Hannah, Rowen Hobbs, Alida Chelsey and Trisha Crowe. Aside from their solo bits, they also serve as each other's backup vocals.

The songs were chosen by Webber himself, says Gordon. "He did it all from the UK. He sought out how to orchestrate, not really which goes after which song, but he was very clear on how it was to be presented."

For fans, it will be a night of singing along (mostly under their breath, to avoid possibly annoying one's neighbor) to all-time favorites like "All I Ask of You," "Don't Cry For Me Argentina" and "Memory," for others who aren't too familiar with the songs, consider the concert a crash course on Webber, as it showcases his works from as early as the 1970s ("Jesus Christ Superstar") to as recent as 2008 ("Love Never Dies," the sequel to "Phantom of the Opera").

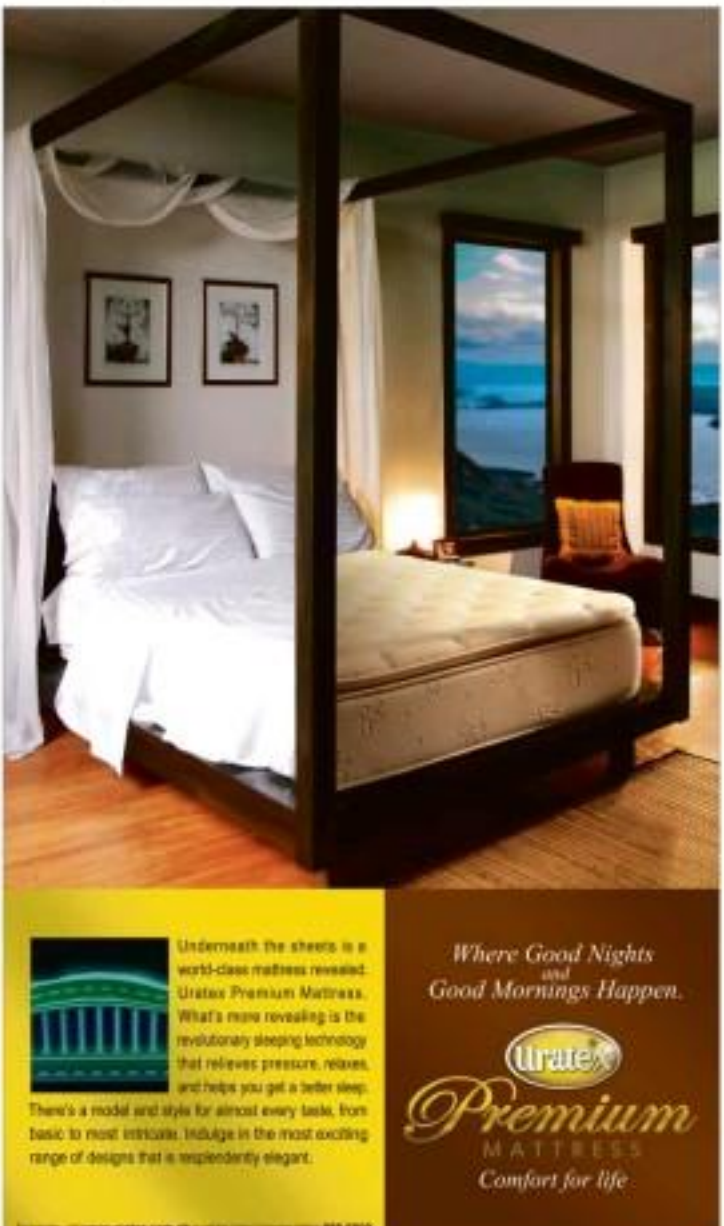
"Andrew Lloyd Webber is a crowd-pleaser across all ages," Gordon says.

Rehearsals didn't take too long with the caliber of talent the show has—the cast started preparing together with musical director Paul White just two weeks before the show opened at Repair Theater in Mid-Interior.

"But they were preparing themselves beforehand, so I was," says White, who has been here in Manila many times...he was here for "Miss Saigon" in 2000 and last year for "Cats," and his partner is a Filipino.

"These eight are real musicians. They're all well-educated with natural talent, and they really understand what they are doing musically and dramatically."

CROWING SEE C2



Sunday L

UNDERGROUND river and caves in Palawan, above, and iconic Bakasan hermits

Best summer adventure spots

. . . and best foodie havens around the country

By Margie C. Enriquez
Contributor

SOME PEOPLE are driven to explore the nature or hie off the mountains, experience the culture or enjoy the culinary lure. Here are some immersive activities that share their favorite destinations in the country.

ARMITA RUFINO

President of the Heritage Hotels and Museums Foundation of the Philippines, Zonta Club of Makati

1. BALABAK. Puerto Princesa Mayor Hagedorn and the locals are solicitous and hospitable. The Palawan Subterranean Underground River in Sabang is named as one of the new Seven Wonders of the World, with its caves, tropical rainforest and diverse wildlife. A long river runs through dramatic limestone formations. Take morning boat ride as the waters are calmest. Enjoy a trip from Puerto Princesa to Sabang in Long, relax in the resorts that offer panoramic views.

2. BOHOL. This is a place for lovebugs' visits. Both in the 18th and 19th centuries, the disorders are not only places of worship but are important repositories of religious artifacts. The disorders named as National Cultural Treasures and National Historical Landmarks are in Baclayon (the first Catholic mission church), Alburquerque with its stunning murals, Loboc [with its world-famous floating church's choir], Loon and Maribojoc. The Church in Dauis is also a national historical landmark, famous for its hidden well in front of the altar. "The Subsistence fight to preserve their culture," she says, citing an outlandish bridge that is demolished the church tower in Loboc.

3. ILOCOS in ILOCOS SUR, CEBU. The Marian Monks acquired the land where it was known. Now it's a hideaway place with forests and clean sea. Its Virgin Mary.

4. MEMBER EXCEPTIONAL. The province is known for old houses but is actually known of beautiful white sand beaches such as Bigaday with its bay walls. Cadiz offers powdery sands and coral reefs. One of the best places to stay at is the nice house Lakarosa in Isnel Beach. Aside from lush beaches, Mangalis is home to Casino Para which holds the Chapel of Canterbury, made of salvaged pieces and shaped like a ship. Visit the grave of Jose Rizal, the setting of "Cruz, Plata, Mina." In Victorias City, the Chapel of the Angry Christ broke the convention in church art when artist Alfonso Ossorio depicted Christ as an ordinary man. For outdoor lovers, Carabao Falls is a must-visit with its pristine beauty. When in Bacolod, visit the Clara Chapel in Santa Clara Subdivision. It features a mosaic of the Blessed Virgin made of 50,000 pieces of polished shells while the Stations of the Cross and other religious images are a collage of 70,000 bivalve shells. Located is also known for its delicacies—dulce de guisa, sampaguita, pulo Mangala, pinangka, pulletas and piñon while the best found is in Chicken House. Its Negrense is becoming a magnet of world-class cafe, with huge fans for brewing coffee-roasting and milk steaming.

5. LOTTE. Like Bohol, it is rich in history, culture, natural resources, churches, shrines and fish sanctuaries. The Lopez Museum and Library still holds heritage and cultural dances which they are trying to regenerate. Leyte Park Resort Hotel may be in the middle of Tacloban City, but is actually possesses eco-centers. You can enjoy the sea view and locate passing by.

SUSAN CALO-MEDINA

TV host

1. PARMARIA. The best way is to enjoy Pamparaga is through (in boat), especially if you get invited to a Kapampangan house. "The best dish, dish or style dinner that I have tasted was made by a Lacanio matriarch... much better than Tony's... made from the pampanga and is creamy and gooey but light. However, it's not a common delicacy. Ask her sister Deby Fernandez to make it for you," she says.

In Aruyat, go for Kalegang Asin Inc. Its made from country but nicely house and primitive of carabao's milk. The Aquin in Salcedar in Angeles has Kalegang cream. The best aquasol is made by Ili ang Upang in San Fernando. It is soft, filled with the goodness of baby meat and covered with toasty rice powder. If you like chicharon with a twist, buy the homemade version of Everybody's Café—it's not always available...but when they have it, it's crunchy, the lemon nicely crisped, fresh and worth all the calories and cholesterol. The best dinner is in Dewasan Cannon Mountain! Head to the top for dinner in the pavara, which rotates not only during Mandang Gold. Her pavara cream is crisp and her filling is a spicy mix of shrimp and vegetables.

2. BOHOL. Bohol because it's heavy cooking, relaxed and friendly. Beautiful white beaches, excellent resorts, adventures...and the happiest people, people you that they make intrigues. Go to Baclayon for the Iran (Arum in Lunas), but Iglesia and Loay. There are two Iran makers near the church. Visit the Homestead in Loay. In Loay there is a coffee place in the ground floor and it has...surprise...a real espresso machine that makes strong frisky coffee. Loay adventure park offers different activities. Take the Zipline, Tarzan Swing...then drops you 60 meters down and swings you across the gorge like a wild pendulum. Sarawan Island, off the coast of Getafe, in the location of what is reputedly the largest mangrove farm in Northeast Asia. At low tide, you can walk through, around and across the mangroves—a high way in the middle of the sea.

3. BATHAN CITY. "My favorite destination in the Philippines is, of course, Batan City because I was born there," she says. There is the Basco Regional Museum which records spanning up, and Balangbang shrine, which recounts the oldest boat raised in Southeast Asia. There are still several landmarks that have not been renovated like the old hotels.

"Get creative Batanese to cook basic to for you...or share along stuffed with spiced young coconut and cooked in coconut milk. Or ask them to get you lapun, our Batanese eat which is neither vegetable nor fruit. Or the sea...

Batanes is also known for its delicacies...dulce de guisa, sampaguita, pulo Mangala, pinangka, pulletas and piñon while the best found is in Chicken House. Its Negrense is becoming a magnet of world-class cafe, with huge fans for brewing coffee-roasting and milk steaming.

6. LOTTE. Like Bohol, it is rich in history, culture, natural resources, churches, shrines and fish sanctuaries. The Lopez Museum and Library still holds heritage and cultural dances which they are trying to regenerate. Leyte Park Resort Hotel may be in the middle of

LOBOC Church, Bohol

city but is idle, coupled with warm hospitality and the charming dispositions of the Leyteno. Keep on moving back to the waters, the Leyteno people said. "Once the guests, we'll find every reason to go there, mainly to mainly our evening for a whiff of that Kamagong thing with fresh oysters, sweetgrass (mangrove jack fish), inshore (mangrove snapper), Bonnethead (redhead Kamanang), Tony's Manokan for its lechon and roast native chicken; the original Dave's Seafood at La Paz Market; Kaisiniad's offerings of fresh sorsi take on Filipino cuisine; Kamagay's executive lunch in Leyteno; lechon is brought at Pandan Seafood; Kamagay's Lechon Lounge or spit-roasted pork belly. And the in-the-for managers do pili from Tacloban Bakeshop."

(Bonnethead) Seafood Restaurant, Mile Beach Avenida, tel. +63 53 321 3202; Tony's Manokan and Seafood, Mile Beach Avenida, +63 53 321 3300; Dave's Original La Paz Batchoy, in front of La Paz Market, Real St., +63 53 325 0520; Seafoods Kitchen Cuisine, The Avenue, Senfrella Drive-in Road, Mendiola, +63 53 321 2222; Kamagay's Executive Lechon, Real Street-Ile Avenida, Diversion Road, +63 53 321 2000; Kamagay's Lechon Lounge Balakbay at The Atrium, Diligent, Jaro (Iloilo-bar-in.)

7. CAPIZ. Dubbed as the "Seafood Capital of the Philippines," Capiz holds one of the richest fishing grounds in the country. Its capital, Roxas City, is the gateway of marine products like prawns, milkfish, oysters, shells and angel wings, which are found in the Panay Gulf. Capiz oysters are simply the best. Grown in clean certified cool tide low waters, they have a clean taste and smell and are fat and succulent. If one is riding the city, here are the places to find the freshest in Bayleg, where you'll find a row of beach front lunches where basically serving the same fare, cooked in the preferred SILIGUIL, the unsung hero of Visayan cooking of delicate sweetly grilled tangkis (skipjack tuna) or sinaluan (kilawa). Our tastes the natural sweetness of fresh seafood without the use of any spices or herbs which will just mask all its natural flavors. At best, barbecued or steamed will enhance its taste.

8. ILOILO. Its Mango number in Tagbilaran City our own experience always night dining by first buying fresh seafood in the wet market and having it cooked in a nearby eatery any way our lunches (called pusbas or "Sam-it-a-wiches"). Come around 6 p.m. when the seafood stands of the day arrives. Aside from the usual suspect Bahra found in Visayas, what caught our fancy were fresh baby sea turtle, lobsters, a bustle of fresh sea urchin roe, and about five kinds of seashells

wrapped in a seasoning orange and used the Raw dough. It is deep fried, then eaten still piping hot, dunked with spicy-sukang Iloilo.

The largest at Seaweeds Café is one of the best we've ever tried...super-crunchy on the outside, yet bind to your gums, but still moist and tender on the inside. It is served with the Dave's corporate lady steady of SIR...dropped formally, lingering and leisure (yessss, salted fish paste and onions).

La Provincial's healthy options are equipped, grilled eggplant's seasoned spicy and tomato salad. Accompanying boiled native vegetables with grilled fish or lacquer (Guisa); and shabby, squash and bitter melon stew. It also serves hearty Ilonggo staples like laing, pinakbet, sarsiado sisig, all delicious, Inasahan's Inn, Inchalapat (Cuevas), where else the Ilonggos get those sweets? (Guevara's Place, 130 National Hi way, Jaro Manila, Iloilo Metro, tel +63 (33) 320 6620); Barracuda Café, McArthur St., Barangay 14, Iloilo City, Panay, +63 (33) 336 0234; Dingle's Empanadillas, Riverside Esplanade Plaza, Iloilo, Iloilo Metro, just across the Catholic church, +63 (33) 320 2020); La Provincial Fine Dining and Catering Services, J.P. Rizal St., Lapuz City, Iloilo Metro, +63 (33) 315 2162 +63 (33) 335 0300; Mom's Country Kitchen, Jaro Manila Town Plaza, Iloilo Metro, Leganes or, Valderrama, Antique, Barangay 2, Lapuz City, +63 (33) 321 2331; Seafoods Kitchen Cuisine, The Avenue, Senfrella Drive-in Road, Mandurriao, +63 (33) 320 2222; Seaweeds Café, McArthur St., Barangay 14, Iloilo City, +63 (33) 336 0234; Tatoy's Manokan and Seafood, Mile Beach, Avenida, +63 (33) 321 3300; Tatoy's Manokan and Seafood, Mile Beach, Avenida, +63 (33) 321 3300; Dave's Original La Paz Batchoy, in front of La Paz Market, Real St., +63 (33) 320 0520; Seafoods Kitchen Cuisine, The Avenue, Senfrella Drive-in Road, Mandurriao, +63 (33) 320 2222; Seaweeds Café, McArthur St., Barangay 14, Iloilo City, +63 (33) 336 0234; Barracuda Lounge, Esplanade, Iloilo City, +63 (33) 320 2020; Dingle's Empanadillas, Riverside Esplanade Plaza, Iloilo, Iloilo Metro, just across the Catholic church, +63 (33) 320 2020; La Provincial Fine Dining and Catering Services, J.P. Rizal St., Lapuz City, Iloilo Metro, +63 (33) 315 2162 +63 (33) 335 0300; Mom's Country Kitchen, Jaro Manila Town Plaza, Iloilo Metro, Leganes or, Valderrama, Antique, Barangay 2, Lapuz City, +63 (33) 321 2331

QUAD Area, Vigan

QUADRUM Island

Ann Tapuja in Tagbilaran market,

egulated our gastric juices to
. Carrying several bags full of
including ready-to-brew
ans and two fine-to-marble-size
ne, we crossed the street to
's John.

had the sloth-looked together,
to remember fellow; baby rela-
ived to a crisp perfection,
ey from head to tail) and the
ime put to bamboo skewers
illed till its resting for visitors
ering the barbecue," I
said. Less than an hour's drive
of Tagbilaran City is Maribojoc
Its the dread-red narrow road
Santa Cruz monastery, past
ora's parish church, is Sag-Sag
ral Restaurant. Sag-sag means
ing high," an affirmation that
s lawnmower keeps on leans on
y at night. Our client inside hun-
ained coleman on table awaiting
water ridge leading out to the
Strait. The very fresh seafood,
ed with the constant gentle sea
and idyllic setting, define the
experience. Seafood is served
to the Visayan KINILAW, a
. Call a day ahead to order
and sauang or starch, whose menu
an appeal as substance.
Lio's Eagles Take Elkins, pd. 1-612
37-2192, across Mango Market,
ers, Bohol. Sag-Sag Seafood
ant, Santa Cruz municipal
ite, Bohol, call Jinky Cuenca
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BEACHES: "On our last visit
ere stayed at Discovery Shores,"
young couple said. "Though there
lodging facilities were expen-
ed of its category, one real discovery
though, at least by our books, was
D'Talipapa, a wet market (see double
ionalities)."

As our eyes met the vendors, our gaze
a bedroom feeling, being greeted by
the usual rows of budget chain restau-
rants (well, only three in fact). But as
our camera feasibles down the alley,
our discovers a series of small restau-
rants serving a la carte Filipino dishes
and palate or cooking service, and
several grocery stores. The alley leads
to the main attraction of the five-
year-old D'Talipapa, a mini wet mar-
ket offering quite a good selection of
the freshest catch from the sea, some
fresh meat, and several vegetables
and native delicacies such as sweet-
ing it. The market is fairly clean and
dry, not reeking with fishy smells and
flies, at least the two times we were
there. The manners of cooking is very
limited to grilling, boiling into soups,
steaming, chili sauce, garlic butter
(sauteed or sautéed). Just one can buy
lunches in the groceries just a few us-
ers away). The cooks at Plaza D'Ta-
many know their shortcomings,
though. They will allow a customer
access to the kitchen to cooking chil-
dren. But don't really expect them to
run the cook several as [cooked with
chili sauce], it wasn't the lazy one the
vendor had assured him he. We asked
the waiter to send it back, and with-
out any fuss, came a bigger and fuller
one. And here's the clincher... we
were charged only once for the cooked
cooked crabs. Can't get any better
than that!

A. TALIBAN CITY HIGHWAY HERO STREET, CEBU. "Our bus to drive
south some 20 minutes outside Cebu
City, passing through the airport. The
bus's highway. The destination is this
narrow street near the beach, with
local stalls on both sides selling fa-
shion, fashion murals, grilled pork and
fish, dinagayan, roasted breasts, sev-
eral kinds of sweets/delicious [i.e. go-
ey, dik-ek and bad] at P50 per kilo.
outdoor or are remember and other
delights from the sea. Lechon is sold
by the can. One simply points at the
desired portion, a price is set by the
vendor, and one haggles for the final
price. "Aww... Never mind, I'll just
swapped over) at P1/each. One sweet
on the benches: picnic tables are with-
in the provincewide mall some 300 me-
ters to the beach where ogos gazebos
can be rented. Subay City Jimbay
local street, Bargain for Davao Ho, [by
bay City, Cebu. Open only on Sun-
days."

MARIANO GARCHITORENA

Public relations manager, PAL

Reserve deadlines for Bacolodia
Masskara festivities are inevitable.
Czech Garchitorena and friends have
a memorable climbing group.

1. CEBUIN, PHILIPPINES. "It's one of
the best dive spots in the world. Wa-
ter is unpolluted, clear, teeming
with fish, coral reefs, sea cucumbers,
wildlife and live lobsters. Amazing place
like nature first designed in the world."

2. MT. ULIO TRAVERSE, SURIGUIN/DAVAO REGION. "The best
hike along the trail are unaffected by prior
travellers. Adventurous trails can be ar-
ranged
more than your ears free [and a bit],
but the view is so breathtaking that
you don't know if the thumping in
your chest is cardiac or the sheer joy
of being in the presence of so much
beauty."

3. CALAGUAS ISLANDS, CA-MARINES SUR. "Darkey, low tide,
the Calaguas group looks like the Mal-
dives save the amenities...not unless
you're a guest of the Palawata Island of
Dan who pull out all stops for their
guests (think Survivor." One with me-
ter, technically, a cluster of shrewes, fan-
tastic Shrilanca food and natural surf
waiting on you [local surfers].

4. LITLIPHERE O LUMALIGHA in "DAL ANG VIDAS." "Two-storeyed
houses were restored with passion,
love and lessons. A stay in either one of
Lito's houses is an exercise in turning
back time complete with costumes
and heirlooms (some dishes) on with
loads of tried and tested local grubs.
This is history drawn and sprinkled up
for general consumption."

5. DRIVE IN LUZON. "Long drives
with my friends doctors Noel Lucas
and Ricky Briones, my favorite travel-
ing companions, along with their dogs
Picking (Yorkie) and Jarel (Yorkie),
are fun. These span up to Zambales
and Cagayan Valley to all the way
down to Laguna, Batangas, Naranjan
and Quezon. We drive off with a long
IV in mind, equipped only with a CD
spares, music, cameras, curiosity and
loads of patience. We're never quite
sure where we might end up and what
sleeping conditions await us, but we
always come away with loads of sto-
ries, photos and friendships."

STELLA SISON

Events producer

When she's not busy with Stages
Production Specialists doing events or
managing artists, she and her friends
are a group of backpack-ers who enjoy
traveling for adventure.

1. KIRIMIT. The texture of its land-
scape is very Scotland. If you recognize
the photos, you can hardly tell which
one is which. That is, if there are no
carabaos.

2. BALIKASAWAG, BALIWAG. The
place to indige in reminiscence of the Cali-
fornia gold rush days or Baguio in the
1950s. The savvy owners allow stems
of waterfalls, cliffs and limestone for-
mations that are suggestive of
caverns. There is a natural pool/plat-
ic ground, surrounded by mountain
range and waterways leading to the
river.

3. BIRHEN BIRCH, MATNOG, SO. SOGOD. Upon approaching the is-
land there is a savvy limestone forma-
tion with a natural arch. The scenery
opens to a cavernous passageway and
a collection of rocks. The arena is en-
closed by white sand. The whole area
is awash with clear blue waters and
lush forestry.

4. BAMBANGAN ISLANDS, CA-MARINES SUR. It's an picturesque as
the movie city of Cebu in Guangxi,
China. At times, its rock formations,
clear waters and beaches look like a
misty scene in a Chinese painting.
Travel under new licensing (clues have
been issued) to the area. That's why TV series from various countries and
cultures.

5. BAMLIGH VOLCANO, MISAMIS OCCIDENTAL. The fact that it is an ac-
tive volcano makes it a challenging
climb. The mountain trail is breath-
taking, with the sights of rainforests,
forests, waters, waterfalls and hot
springs on the slopes. The climb can
be taken from several access points.
Take Clarabelen, La Carlota City the
most easy point. But the views are
invisible from the peak as the trails
holds several scenic first trails. When
you're tired of the trek, enjoy the view
of the second and Mangabe Bay, the
old crater of Catdaan. Upon reaching
the summit, you'll see that the inner
lining of the volcano is deep.

SILVANA FORNARI

Fashion ambassador's wife

Italian Ambassador Luca Fornari,
wife Silvana and son Lorenzo love to
discover the Philippines and visit dive
spots.

1. BOHOL. Both Madam Fornari
and Lorenzo cited the island as the
top of their list because of its diversi-
ty. Lorenzo said that beyond the
beaches, there are historical attractions
and centuries-old churches. Madam Fo-
rnari added if she did the Loboc River
cruise, she replies, "They said it's
touristy." Ultimately, Ms Fornari said
she enjoys the friendliness no matter their
stay memorable. On diving, she says,
"The water is very warm. I don't like
cold diving, almost diving in the Philip-
pines."

2. PUERTO GALERA. The island is
known for its diver spots, beaches with
scenic cliffs, its natural harbor for
yachts, and its jungle for adventurers. It
is also "very close to Manila, which I
love to visit places where there are lots
of things to do," said Ms Fornari.

3. SIQUIJOR, CAGBARAAN ISLAND, ALBAY. The white beaches, jagged
coastline, caves and nature scenery are
fantastic.

4. SIQUIJOR, SIQUIJOR. Said to be
the birthplace of the witch in the cente-
ry, Siquijor offers 31 dive sites which
are rich in marine biodiversity. "We
saw some fish here," says Ms Fornari.

5. BOHOL, CAMBUHAT ISLAND, ALBAY. The white beaches, jagged
coastline, caves and nature scenery are
fantastic.

6. SIQUIJOR, SIQUIJOR. Said to be
the birthplace of the witch in the cente-
ry, Siquijor offers 31 dive sites which
are rich in marine biodiversity. "We
saw some fish here," says Ms Fornari.

7. BOHOL, CAMBUHAT. It provides
the best of the underwater, cable and
sightable scene as well as activities for
extreme sports and the popular Ocean
Adventure, Subi's only open water
marine park where animals bask in
their natural setting. "The atmosphere
was a lot of fun. We played with the
dolphins," said Ms Fornari.

SHAUN Stenning, who played Phantom/rep in last year's production of "Cats," returns in
Number 10: "The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber." Here he sings Jellie, from "Jesus Christ
Superstar."

Growing up with the music of Andrew Lloyd Webber

From page 1

To-o-fold challenge

It was a different kind of challenge for the cast. Aside from removing their fore-mid-wrists in stop-audition, the actors have to "replace up the scenery," says Sharon Brauer, who was also in Manila last year for "Cats" as Mandrake cat.

"The challenge is two-fold. We've only got a short time to build up the character and vocal cords," she says. Brauer said, "You have to drop yourself in quickly and take the audience with you."

"The other challenge is trying to sing such varied styles. There are only eight of us, and there's such a broad spectrum of music."

Della Vassals and Michael Cormick, the cast's most seasoned actors, agree with Brauer, but they have it easier. Both have worked previously with Webber, and have done most of the roles that they sing in the concert. "It's always interesting to work with Andrew; he's very particular about what he wants," Cormick says. "It's great for someone to be that close about it."

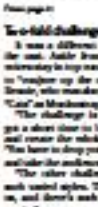
"I think that's part of the reason they [Londoners Theatrical Productions] asked us to do the concert, because I know the feeling of the characters."

LED screens

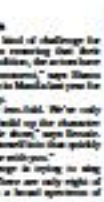
The cast is mixed with the quick transi-tions by modern technology. Four LED screens light up the stage, flashing song lyr-ics, images that complement each song. London has worked its previous productions with LED screens, and describes them as "a lot easier to use."

"The screens tell us a story in conjunc-tion with the voice and the actors," she says. "Nothing will ever replace the old-fashioned way, but [the] screens are cool, useful modern bits of lore to put on a show."

The concert has done the rounds in Aus-tralia, having performed in Melbourne, Perth, Adelaide, Sydney and Brisbane before coming to Manila. Johannesburg is next (June). They'll be touring New Zealand, Hong Kong and Singapore as well before coming here to the Philippines.



ALANIS Chinkay



SHAUN Stenning

KRISTIN Hobbie

MICHAEL Cormick

HANS Sweden

TRISH Cruce

GILA Hannah

ANDREW Conaghan

"The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber" will run starting June 24 at the CCP Globark auditorium; get 10 percent off when they charge tickets to their Globark credit card or present their Globark ATM Card and pay in cash. Prices is until May 31. Call Globark world at 8810000, or visit www.globarkworld.com.ph.

THE SHOW'S musical director describes the eight cast members as "real musicians, all real ambassador-ish musical talents."

PIECES by Gilda Cordero-Fernando, at right, the artist at her exhibit in Silverlens Gallery, Makati

Creative force Gilda Cordero Fernando mounts new art exhibit

ARTWORKS by Gilda Cordero Fernando

Nemiranda's figures and colors highlight summer

"CORN Madonna"; below, "Sunshine"

They call her Tita Honey

ROOTS AND WINGS

Cathy Babao-Gallardo

ENTERTAINMENT

Editor Emmie G. Velarde

INSIDE

■ Charice could be 'Saigon'-bound Rushes /K1
■ Jodie stands by Mel Gibson Only In Hollywood /K4

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P24

Goodbye, Casey; hello, Jacob!

JACOB Luke

SEVERE Casey Abrams fell victim to the "Vote for the Worst" line of death.

Casey, who was saved by judges from the dropping block exactly a month ago, finally got voted off last week...curiously after he was chosen by MTV as its candidate.

MTW, the mtvPhilippines.blogspot website, swiftly picked Jacob Link as its new "Idiomet" bet.

The site predicted: "We know you're going home next week. But we don't care. Lady Luck deserves our support."

Will Jacob get the an extra week and prove the MTW camp-swifty accurate?

By the way, MTW wrote off Carole King work as "one horrible, ungodly dull mess."

The remaining Idols didn't fare any better as far as the MTW reviewer was concerned.

● Lincoln Lamb ("Oh No Not My Baby"): "Yelp-doer! Unbaked bun and his over-stress tive, under-exciting performance ... (is) pure awful choice."

● Laureen Alviza ("Where Are You?"): "Looks awkward and nervous, annoying onstage-wearing low-source tired outings."

● Casey Abrams and Haley Reinhart ("I Feel the Earth Move"): "Hairy, growling stalker and subzero fitted blonde with retro plaid/gymnasium/bad wood toy."

● Scotty McCreery ("You've Got a Friend"): "Sardines, no passion/less, no rhythm/ing. An interminable bore in my personal hell."

● James Durbin ("Will You Love Me Tomorrow"): "Unskilled performance ... but it

COMPLETE LIST

The problem is attitude

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

TVS RECENTLY came up with new guidelines for the treatment of children—comprehensively, so viewers, subjects, talents or parents/parents—in its shows. It's a good starting point for the hugely important task of making the key medium of television child-friendly, instead of the usual common practice, which is diametrically the other way around.

In addition, TVS will assign a child cod...

THE PROBLEM IS

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o facebook.com/smartcommunicationsinc and click the Bieber Fever tab.

Goodbye, Casey; hello, Jacob!

From page 3

HALEY Reinhart

still wake. When James gets the silhouette lighting, his monkey suit glow red."

•Sonny McCreary and Lauren Alaina ("Up on the Roof"): "Seeing me in town ... those are the words that kept running through my head."

•Casey Abrams ("If It Ain't Love"): He "does a lot of grooming and hi-ish hi-ing. He could have had a hit with the Lucky Hooligan band in 1929. Unfortunately, it's 2011."

•Haley Reinhart ("Beautiful"): "Seeing, heartless song in a short skirt ... her mouth never completely closes. Strange."

•Jacob Lusk and Jessey Durbin ("Something Told Me I'm Into Something Good"): "They try to out-mushmon each other with [redacted] pants and scary gyrations. Even Jennifer Lopez is intimidated by the eyes-possessing brainwave ... so that when they turn their chairs around, she chortles her mouth protectively and never lets go."

"WILLING WILLIE" hosts Willie Nordhaus and Elisabet Sahtidal

The problem . . .

From page 3

[redacted] coordinator to conduct sensitivity training sessions for its production people; get a consulting child psychologist; set up a viewer feedback mechanism (e-mail TV's ombudsman); etc.

While these initial initiatives are welcome, the problem is so pervasive that other causes need to be made by all TV production groups, to be able to finally set things right.

Our additional input: First, we must put a stop to forced or psychologically "persuaded" child labor on TV. Child talents must never be made to work as their families' breadwinners, or quite often is the case. TV networks should get to know their child talents enough to make sure that the main reason why they perform is to express their creative best, and not to make money for their parents, who should be the ones bringing home the bacon.

In addition, taping or shooting hours for minors should be strictly complied with, so they have enough time for their studies, playtime and "just being children."

TV insiders reveal that taping limits are sometimes not complied with, and supervisors cooperatively "see no evil" in this regard. So, what's the use of rules when they aren't observed, and the rule breakers aren't penalized for their infractions?

The TV channels' feedback mechanisms needs to be made proactive, in stead of merely reactive. Why wait for viewers to complain? What TV stations should do is to set up their own self-regulatory systems in the all-shows, so that child-friendly TV standards and guidelines are observed.

This sounds some expense, but it would all be worth it, because it would convince the viewing public that TV people have at least some at heart.

Many times in the past, TV advocacy viewing groups have communicated their concern and complaints to the pertinent channels, only to be told (off the record) that private grievances aren't be acted on, because "TV is a mass medium"—meaning, individual complaints do not reflect what the majority of viewers feel.

And, in one case, we were once told by a TV executive that complaints are acted on only when they've given formal documentation by media writers like us. Or when the complaints are numerous enough to practically force the channels to do their job. Now remember and control our ears get?

That's why we feel that "standards" and "guidelines" are OK, but they won't make social ideas useless and until TV people's basic attitudes are changed.

All else is lip service and mouthing platitudes to double speak. So, concerned viewers shouldn't lower their guard—until real reforms are made.

ENTERTAINMENT

Charice could be 'Saigon'-bound

By the Entertainment staff

IT'S WHAT Charice Pempengco's main booster Oprah Winfrey might call an "a-ha" moment.

RUSHES

Is the 18-year-old Filipina singer being groomed to play lead character Kim in a movie version of the mammoth musical "Miss Saigon"—the new role that won a Lony and a Tony for Lea Salonga?

The movie incarnation of "Saigon" is reportedly in the works, to be directed by Joe Daniels, the series filmmaker behind the award-winning "Precious." Rap, the same Oscar winner that Oprah produced.

CHARICE K2

A 21st century tweak

Text and photos by Bayani San Diego Jr.

COMEDIAN—Bobcille Monteverde, producer of Regal Films, knew only one person could remake Tony Cunningham's Temptation Island."

"We wouldn't have done this remake without [new co-director] Chris Martinez," she told reporters at the Plaza Tropical Resort Hotel here, 20 minutes from Laoag, capital of Ilocos Norte.

"He's passionate about the original movie," she explained. "He knows the material inside and out and understands concept."

Actually, Martinez is dreaded by the project. "If I'm[illegible] ever watching porn, he would surely raise a issue," he said. "I heard they spent 20...days in the nicol dunes of Paoay."

Sand dunes

Martinez and the entire cast—led by Bella Mae Quiroz, Heart Evangelista, Lovi Poe, Iza Calzado, Mikael Daez, John Lapus and Marian Rivera—revisited the sand dunes and endured the punishing heat and intermittent sandstorms during the shoot.

Monteverde said: "Chris is presumed to do well because his work will surely be compared to the original, especially since [Scott Jerry] has scott following."

She didn't watch the film when it was first shown in theaters in 1980. "It was R-18. The first time I saw it was when it was included in the

A PPSI

Aika faces libel suit in Bulacan

CITY OF MALOLOS —Actress and former Quezon City Councilor Aika Robredo was sued for libel before the Bulacan prosecutor's office on Thursday by two Bulacan mayors, who are supposedly the subjects of her comments on homosexuals in reports that appeared online and in print.

Mayor Danilo Sol Medina of Bocaue town, the current fiancé and boyfriend, and Mayor Jesus Roque of Pandi town indicted four entertainment reporters in the suit.

Mayor Paulo Tarlo Galvez Tan of San Ildefonso town, spokesperson of the Bulacan Mayors' League, took a bow and left, declining the lender and entertainment reporters Jigo Diaz, Gozo Dela, Ronald Rafio and Noe Ampoloquio as persons not given a courtesy call on the province.

The charges stemmed from an online exchange in a social networking site between Medina and Robredo, which allegedly referred to Medina as Bocaue's lawa.

Carmela Reyes-Ilarraya, Inquirer CentralLuzon

Charice could be 'Saigon'-bound

Rushes

Rushes

Rushes

CHAN Martinez is a Guiangbo fan.

A 21st century tweak

From page K1

Guiangbo retrospective of the 6th Pista Cinema (the festival threw years ago."

Watching the film with a mostly foreign audience, she said, was like rediscovering a long-lost gem. "I was fully entertained," Montenegro recalled. "The foreigners laughed throughout the film and, after the screening, they approached my mom [Lily Monteverde] and asked if all Regal's movies were this crazy."

Replay

The 2008 "Temptation" screening in Paris was so successful that the festival showed it again a year later.

In July, another Guiangbo camp classic, "Shaolin Iron," will be shown (also for the second time) at the Pista Cinema fest. Meanwhile, Martinez's "Here Comes the Bride" will be screened at the Udine fest in Italy in May.

In Paris 2008, there was already talk of possibly restoring "Temptation."

"I was excited by the idea," Monteverde said. "I knew we could pull it off with the right cast—especially since we already had a action director on board."

Stage version

Martinez staged an all-male version of "Temptation" in 2003, with Lapus in drag and producer as the Cultural Center of the Philippines.

"We invited Divak Joey and Mother Lily to CCP," Lapus recounted. "As early as then, people were encouraging Mother Lily to do a remake of 'Temptation.' A year later we had another run at the Republic of Malate. We gave part of the proceeds to Divak Joey for his medical needs. He died shortly after."

Lapus said Martinez wants to remake the original script, making a few revisions, but only as update to. For instance, he said, "Characters now have cell phones and Facebook accounts."

Monteverde countered: "Data also has a few surprises up his sleeves."

E-mail: bayanmusko@yahoo.com

NEWPORT CINEMAS

1 BEASTLY 1:05, 3:15, 5:25, 7:35, 10:00

2 THOR 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15

3 THOR in 3D 12:05, 2:35, 5:25, 8:05, 10:35

4 DIARY OF A WIMPY KID 2 12:10, 2:35

ARTHUR 5:15, 7:45, 10:15

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GLORIETTA 4

1: RIO in Digital 3D 12:45, 2:55, 5:05, 7:15, 9:30 LHP
THOR 7:00, 9:40 LHP

2: BEASTLY 12:30, 2:40, 4:50, 7:00, 9:15, 10:10 LHP

3: THOR in Digital 3D 11:55, 2:25, 4:55, 7:25, 9:55 LHP

4: ARTHUR 11:55, 2:25, 4:55, 7:25, 9:55 LHP

5: DIARY OF A WIMPY KID 2 12:10, 2:30, 5:00, 7:40, 9:50 LHP

6: THOR 12:15, 2:45, 5:05, 7:35, 9:55 LHP

7: PAKI PAKI MY DR. KWAKI 12:15, 2:40, 5:05, 7:30, 9:55 LHP

GREENBELT 1

1: PAKI PAKI MY DR. KWAKI 1:40, 4:05, 6:30, 8:55 LHP

2: THOR 11:55, 2:20, 4:35, 7:10, 9:45 LHP

GREENBELT 3

1: THOR 12:05, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:45, 11:10 LHP

2: THOR 12:40, 2:50, 5:00, 7:10, 9:20 LHP

3: DIARY OF A WIMPY KID 2 2:30, 4:40, 6:50, 9:00, 11:10 LHP

4: BEASTLY 12:30, 2:40, 4:50, 7:00, 9:10, 11:10 LHP

5: ARTHUR 1:40, 4:05, 6:30, 8:45, 11:10 LHP

ALABANG TOWN CENTER

1: THOR 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:10, 8:10, 10:40 LHP

2: THOR (Digital 3D) 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 9:15 LHP

3: BEASTLY 12:10, 4:00, 6:30, 8:40, 10:40 LHP

4: PAKI PAKI MY DR. KWAKI 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:10, 8:10, 10:40 LHP

5: WIMPY KID 2 1:00, 3:00 LHP

ARTHUR 5:00, 7:10, 10:40 LHP

AYALA CENTER CEBU

1: THOR 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, 10:00 LHP

2: ARTHUR 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00 LHP

3: BEASTLY 12:45, 2:45, 4:45 LHP

4: PAKI PAKI MY DR. KWAKI 1:45, 3:45, 6:05, 8:30, 9:00 LHP

MARQUEE

1: THOR 12:30, 3:00, 5:40, 8:15 LHP

2: THOR (3D) 1:30, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00 LHP

3: HALL PASS 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00 LHP
BEASTLY 12:00, 2:15, 4:30, 6:50, 9:00 LHP

4: PAKI PAKI MY DR. KWAKI 12:45, 3:15, 5:45, 8:00, 10:00 LHP

MARKET! MARKET!

1: THOR (3D) 12:45, 3:15, 5:45, 8:20, 10:50 LHP

2: ARTHUR 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50, 10:00 LHP

3: THOR 12:45, 3:15, 5:45, 8:20, 10:50 LHP

4: RIO (3D) 1:00, 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 11:00 LHP
THOR (3D) 12:30, 2:50, 5:10 LHP
7:00, 10:00 LHP

5: ARTHUR 12:45, 3:15, 5:45, 8:20, 10:50 LHP

6: DIARY OF A WIMPY KID 2 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00 LHP

7: THOR 12:15, 2:45, 5:30, 7:55, 10:30 LHP

TRINOMA

1: BEASTLY 12:00, 2:10, 4:20, 6:30, 8:40, 10:50 LHP

2: PAKI PAKI MY DR. KWAKI 12:00, 2:10, 4:20, 6:30, 8:40, 10:50 LHP

3: THOR (3D) 12:45, 3:15, 5:45, 8:20, 10:50 LHP

4: RIO (3D) 1:00, 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 11:00 LHP
THOR (3D) 12:30, 2:50, 5:10 LHP
7:00, 10:00 LHP

5: ARTHUR 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50, 10:00 LHP

6: DIARY OF A WIMPY KID 2 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00 LHP

7: THOR 12:15, 2:45, 5:30, 7:55, 10:30 LHP

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MOVIE SPECIAL

MALL EVENTS

GLORIETTA
Ayala Center, Makati City
May 6: Concerts in the Park

GREENBELT
Paseo de Roxas corner Legaspi Street, Makati
May 6: Alive and Kicking

ALABANG TOWN CENTER
Filinvest Corporate City, Alabang
May 6: Alabang Town Center Anniversary

SOMERSET OLYMPIA STREET
Somerset Olympia Makati, Valero corner Herrera Streets, Makati
May 21, 10:00 pm
Mike Hanopol

MARKET! MARKET!
Bonifacio Global City
May 1: Andrew Garcia

AYALA CENTER CEBU
Cebu Business Park, Cebu City
May 7: Ayala Center Cebu Anniversary

TRINOMA
Fort Bonifacio Global City, Taguig
May 7: Mindscape Open Painting (10:00 am to 4:00 pm)

MARQUEE
Filinvest City, Alabang
April 30 to May 1
Anthony Castelo

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DREAM COME TRUE: Mica Magsanoc on the orange carpet

How Mica made her vivid orange dreams come true

IT DREAMS were understood. Mica Magsanoc's would be mostly in vivid orange and green.

The bubbly 10-year-old girl had dreamed big—to witness this year's Nickelodeon's Kids' Choice Awards in Los Angeles, like got it.

"I am definitely familiar with the Nickelodeon's Kids' Choice Awards. I've watched it[illegible] since 2008," Mica gushed, still overwhelmed by the experience, weeks after the event was held early last month.

Star-studded

Mica didn't merely watch the show live at the Universal City of Southern California's Los Angeles Gibson Center; she walked the latest Orange Carpet to cover the star-studded event.

She admitted started when she and her sisters Monicy and Magica saw the "Kids Choice Time" promo on TV at home. The contest rules were simple, she thought. A blogger should do a catchy, well-written video of himself or herself and explain why he or she should be chosen. Deadline for submission of videos was on that same day.

"I wasn't afraid to show my wacky personality," Mica recalled. "I did crazy blinking, but still the dance is the best of 'Thriller' and act say the 'Rocketing With Me' music video of Taylor Swift," the essay was inspired by her favorite Nickelodeon show "Wacky" She added. "The concept was to show how wacky I am and why I'm a funny way hopefully one that would make people laugh."

Mica was ecstatic when she learned that she had won! With much excitement, she and her mother Gina flew to the US with $1,000 pocket money from Nickelodeon. They were [illegible] level at The Standard Hotel in Downtown Los Angeles as part of her prize.

Welcome party

On the first day, Mica moved Nickelodeon Animation Studios and saw the creatures and producers of the hit shows "SpongeBob SquarePants," "Fanboy & Chum Chum" and "Penguins of Madagascar." After a whole day of touring and interviewing, Mica attended the welcome party at the studio grounds. She got to play games, have an animator draw her picture and interact with all the cartoon characters that hosted her.

Days later, Mica went around Los Angeles to do the rights. She also got to visit the

WITH Chloe the Explorer and SpongeBob SquarePants

Comic Center a day before the awards show, and wasn't behind-the-scenes preparations for the event.

On the third day, Mica found herself right on the 2011 Nickelodeon's Kids' Choice Awards' orange carpet, with her sisters, autograph book and extra clothes (That is once I got myself!"). She was accompanied by her mom and representatives from Nickelodeon, including Philippines-country manager Ace Pilotlo.

"We launched the Nick Reporter Hero about three months ago to give Pinoy Nickteens a chance to celebrate chance in one their favorite Hollywood stars and be part of the biggest awards show for kids on the planet," Pelotlo said. "Mica's entry was Nick-ified, witty, smart and snappy, so we chose her."

Mica saw Hollywood stars earlier down the orange carpet, gave them high-fives and even talked to some of her favorites.

"Then, there where I was seated during the program, I could see stars like Victoria Justice and the cast of the Victorious' cast, the boys from Big Time Rush, Selena Gomez, Debby Ryan, presenter MacCauley Culkin, Brian Bonjiovi, Snoop Dogg, Train, Randy Jackson, Steven Tyler and many more," Mica gushed.

She also saw Russell Brand getting dressed unexpectedly by the kids on the front row and witnessed the live performance by Big Time Rush, Selena Gomez and Willow Smith. She was amused by the acts-off competition between Kevin James, Kaley Cuoco and the rapper, Josh Dallusmo. "It was altogether great, cool and crazy," Mica said.

Mica hopes her journey inspires young Nickteens to go for their goal, no matter how difficult it seems. "Never give up and always follow your dreams," she said. "Work never stops unless you'll take you."

Jodie stands by Mel Gibson

ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD

Rodney V. Segnalera

LOS ANGELES—"There's a lot of consequences in his behavior," Jodie Foster said of his friend Mel Gibson and the string of scandals he has been involved in.

"It doesn't matter how much I love him," scanned the actress-director producer, speaking in her usual calm, confidence manner during the recent interview.

She was casually dressed in a short-sleeved top, pants and sandals. "I can't condone his behavior," she went on, "His behavior is his responsibility. It's really for him to live the consequences. I don't think anybody understands that better than him. This isn't something he takes lightly."

First priority

Whether or not Mel returns to acting full time is, in Jodie's mind, the least of the pressing issues he must confront. "He understands that his first priority is his own health and his responsibility to his family and children," said Jodie. "That's the first thing he has to get right. Acting. Everything else comes after."

Jodie and Whoopi Goldberg are among a few Hollywood folks who publicly stood by Mel amid his own [illegible] issues. In our feature on the actor in yesterday's column), Jodie revered Mel in "The Beaver," a drama that's screening in the opening Cannes Film Festival.

"Whoopi has known him forever," Jodie pointed out. "For both [illegible] him very well. Considering her personal friends—it's no secret either. It's just the truth. But it is the man I know. In this film ("The Beaver") I'm so proud of him and grateful to him as well. It really shows a side of Mel that people don't get to see. But I get to see. That allows you to understand his complexities. He's a complicated man."

Good reviews

In a performance that is garnering good reviews, Mel plays Walter Black, a family man and a once successful executive suffering from depression who adopts a beaver hand puppet as his means of communication. Jodie portrays Walter's wife.

"I know obviously the side everybody knows—the light of foot and the nuttiness that Mel can have, and the humor," Jodie said in explaining why she cast him. "But I also know his understanding struggle to an emotional way, the issues of shame and disappointment, and wanting to change ..."

Private Mel

She shared an anecdote: "The private Mel is more thoughtful and sensitive than he lets people know publicly," she said. "Since, I can give a new outside my house. I wrote to give this screenplay. When I turned around, I smashed into this tree. There was blood all over my face. The phone rang and it was Mel. I hadn't talked to him in a real long time. So it's crazy that he called, right at that moment. I was kind of disoriented.

"I said to Mel, 'I hit my head and there's blood everywhere.' He came driving up like ... Two minutes later ... He had this bag of Human things, arnica, ointments and stuff. I guess he carries it around like that ... She took care of me. I mean ... That's the way I know. He is somebody I would call in there in the morning if something happened. I know he feels the same about me."

On the father-son relationship that's also tackled in the film (Jodie: "Riddim plays the son"), Jodie revealed it's one aspect of the script (Mel's "interesting" to her. "I didn't have a father (he left a few months before she was born). So there are more questions for me. And an opportunity to explore something that I actually didn't have. I have lots of

JODIE Foster: "I said I'd never act and almost again. Then this act about, I did ... again."

'If we knew then what we know now, neither one of us would be an actor today. He doesn't have to prove anything after 40 years in the business. It's a wonderful place to be as an actor'

thoughts about it and almost my relationship with my own brother or other people ..."

Jodie laughed as she recounted how she came to cast herself: "I said I would never act and almost again," she began. "Then one idea, I did it ... again. When I brought [illegible] about, I started thinking, who am I going to get to play his wife? I mentioned somebody ... to general the film in drama, and who wouldn't be creepy, with some sense by Mel's facility with the format, and who would be the perspective of the audience. Because the narrator and the hearer are unreliable. It's an unreliable ... point of view. The man's crazy already unstable and his son child is all over the place.

"We needed somebody who, like the audience, would at first slowly embrace the beaver, but realize what hurts can be do? Then little by little, start understanding the absurdity of it and start rejecting him because she sees, as the audience does, that not only is he destroying himself but he's destroying his family. Crowded room, everybody who was the right age, who we can believe is married to him for a long time, that they would have that kind of shorthand. I thought, why don't I just get myself. I know me so well."

We asked Jodie to comment on Mel's remark in an interview to rehab he said: "I don't care if I don't act anymore."

"The only reason to act is because it moves you, because it's a desire and a fire in you," she said. "I always say to Mel, 'The only reason you want to act is because you love it.' He doesn't have to prove anything to anyone after 40 years in the business. It's a challenging but wonderful place to be as an actor to be able to say, 'I don't act to fulfill someone else's dreams of being a star.' Or because the people in my company needs this.

Beautiful person

On Mel as her fellow filmmaker she said: "Mel has so much to say as a director, without having to pay any make-up on, without having to participate in the business of being a celebrity. I always encourage him to do as much of directing as he possibly can, and to really think more about directing than anything else."

They share a dislike for the trappings of celebrity. She said, "We have said this many same thing—that if we know everything that we know now, neither one of us would be an actor today."

Mel's fatal fall will be able to rise again from his troubles, Jodie remarked: "He has an extraordinary talent and that talent will find a place. I know that he's in his love, at his most beautiful, when he's making a film. So I will encourage that from him. He's absolutely beautiful as a partner in making movies. It's the most beautiful side of him."

E-mail the columnist: rsegnalera@yahoo.com

JODIE Foster and Mel Gibson in "The Beaver"

ENTERTAINMENT

Judy Ann, soccer mom

By Bayani San Diego Jr.

MEET Judy Ann Santos, soccer mom.

While watching 6-year-old adopted daughter Yohan's football game, Santos proclaimed as much in an interview.

She insists that she's enjoying her six-month maternity break, six months after giving birth to son Luntin. "I never thought I'd have the patience to be a mom," she admits. "Now I understand. I can spend the entire day with my kids."

It's good training for her new mega mom role, as host of the upcoming ABS-CBN kiddie show "Junior MasterChef," based on a popular British franchise.

"I'm looking forward to meeting the kids on the show," she says. "I want to watch them behind the scenes. When I was told about this project, I immediately downloaded episodes from the Net."

She's seduced that GMA 7 has jumped the gun with its own "Amazing Cooking Kids," hosted by Carmina Villaroel. "There's plenty of room for everyone who loves cooking," she says. "It's healthy competition. Lots of kids are interested in culinary arts. Some kids can make mains and mehndi and kids summer classes."

She doesn't mind waiting for "Junior MasterChef" to begin. "We want to make sure that we stick to the show's habits." We held nationwide auditions and are now looking for the right venue for the show."

INSIDE L2

Dr. Smile DENTAL CARE CENTER

a primer on
DENTAL IMPLANTS

Q What are dental implants?

Dr. Smile says: Dental implants are root-like structures made of titanium or zirconium. These strong but lightweight and safe materials are placed into the jaw bone to serve as a root for a false tooth or a set of false teeth. An implant acts like a tooth root that is then fitted with a crown to look exactly like a natural tooth.

Q Why dental implants?

Dr. Smile says: Dental authorities now consider dental implants as the "standard of care" for replacement of missing teeth. No more messy denture adhesives. Chewing feels more natural, and you can smile confidently to boost your self-esteem.

Implants help preserve your jaw bones and maintain facial appearance. Above all, implants are easy to maintain, with only brushing, flossing, rinsing and regular dental visits. They are the next best thing to natural teeth with a success rate of over 98%.

Q What about the costs?

Dr. Smile says: Implants are affordable considering its many advantages: an implant can last longer than dentures or conventional bridges. The cost of a single tooth implant and crown is much less than a fixed bridge which needs to be replaced more frequently.

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MALL EVENTS

FREE Art Workshop

MALL EVENTS

The beatification of Karol Wo

CNN Hero TV airs the beatification ceremonies of Pope John Paul II in "Blessed John Paul II" hosted by ACEL guru, today, with a review of the highlights from 2:00 to 11 p.m.

Reporting from the Vatican are broadcast journalist Jessica Soho and news anchor Vicky Morales, with Arnold Clavio in Manila.

At 8:45 p.m., CNN Hero TV features "John Paul The Great: A Pope Who Made History," a documentary that shows how Karol Wojtyla, the late pontiff, reshaped the papacy from 1978 up to the day he died in 2005.

Earthquake alert

Is the Philippines prepared for natural disasters?

In tonight's "NHEL," the episode "Central Luzon

In Cinco ng Hapilapag Manok," gives the public a better understanding of one of nature's biggest natural disasters.

From San Francisco, California, Kara David reports on the world-famous San Andreas Fault. Together with the United States Geological Survey or USGS, Kara examines the science behind earthquakes and the steps Filipinos in the US are taking to prepare for the next "big one."

Here at home, she comes takes a look at Baguio City, once devastated by the 1990 earthquake; the landslide prone province of Leyte; Bicolanos, survivors of many natural disasters; and Mindoro's underwater trench.

Vicky Morales also reports on communities identified as danger zones in the event of a big earthquake.

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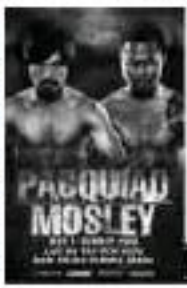

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Awkward Silence? What's that?

WORKING PEOPLE

Editor Jason Francis M. Balboa

Surviving in the new economy

ASK YOUR CAREER COUNSELOR

Ernie G. Cecilia

IN THE PAST, THERE WERE SO-called Captains of Either Mike became fabricators, farmers kept farmers, etc. in the 1700s, nurses were and customer complaints (database freedom of information) with information technology. This fashion that they indicated factors before characterized by a complex interplay of changes in technology, society, work ethic, economy, education and culture. Mechanical work evolved to replace human labor. The era gave the birth of new capitalist practices replacing old systems in what had been an agrarian society all along. The concept of "job" was born. Production capacity increased. Trade expanded. A consumer class emerged.

New Economy

When you think you know this answer, suddenly somebody changes the questions. As the world was getting accustomed with information era, a new economy is emerging. A new industrial revolution is likely to happen as we enter the 21st century.

Kevin Kelly, Executive Editor of Wired Magazine, observed, "The new economy has three distinguishing characteristics. It is global. It favors intangible things – ideas, information, and relationships. And it is interlinked. Hence these attributes energize a new type of marketplace and society, one that is rooted in abundance-based networks."

Today, life today is defined by networks (we deal with people in the internet, for several years now, more and more people talk online and less or wireless. "Offline" is the new buzzword). Work is changing. It leans of some managers asking for office (without accountant through small, minimal of staffing). Low start-up businesses are thriving. Work can be done between without the right use of time and personnel.

Great progress in information and communication technology helped changed the features of doing business, and in many either aspect of life, work, and leisure. In the face of the century, as enthusiasts, business transformation into business has accurately produced major trends in politics, culture and economy that have staggering impact on our lives, in his book, Global Paradox, he opined, "The bigger the world economy, the more powerful its smallest players."

Since a decade ago, 100 percent of Fortune 500 companies' revenue sources were created by companies with 19 or fewer employees. Only 7 percent of US exports are created by companies with 500 or more employees. The Fortune 500 once accounts for only 1/20 of the American economy, while 500 of the 20 economy is in small and medium-sized companies. The same pattern is seen by thousands throughout the rest of the world.

Two years ago in the Philippines, 611,287 or 95.68% of registered business establishments were micro-enterprises, with 1 to 9 employees; some 37,124 or 5.23% are small (10-19 employees); 27,138 or 3.13% are small to medium (20-99 employees); 3,087 or 0.48% are large enterprises (over 200 employees).

New Ways of Doing Business

On page 203 of Any Given Interview, 20:10 book, "Employment and Discovery" (Public Relations Law), I speculated generally on my views about new ways of doing business. I said, "Today, thousands of employees are working positions that they do not make, are enjoying the services performed by people who are not their employers but of their employees, are able to do their jobs the "dirty jobs" to another company or agency, are freed or the daily task of attending to customer complaints, and are able to make it their business to handle customer needs.

Today, outsourcing is the name of the game. Large companies are shedding and passing on work to qualified smaller outfits, so that they can focus on the business of doing business.

In many parts of the world today, including the Philippines, job creation is happening as outsourcing is fast becoming the norm. Outsourcing is simply contracting with organizations with enough resources that can outperform the client/owner (TNT billion last year) from overseas Filipino workers (OFWs).

Market realities

The recent global financial crisis showed that size, longevity and tenure are no more business issues. Companies can no longer impose their values or their products and services on their customers simply on account of being the customer. To be in business or because they are the biggest player. In fact, many large conglomerates are forced to downsize because of inefficiencies, redundancies and unfavorable economic practices and economies of scale because they can no longer be able to compete with smaller and more agile players in the market. Their staying and bankruptcy records CEO—outsourcing, downsizing and decentralization. Both CEOs and thousands of managers must now adapt to the new economic realities and paying employees for incumbency, longevity or tenure.

In the past, many years ago, companies quite global competition was a wake-up call for economic giants like ABB, AT&T, GE, GM, Ford, Daimler-Chrysler, Siemens, Philips, British Petroleum, Toshiba, Sony, Nissan, Matsushita, Hitachi, Toyota, Sun Microsystems, Apple, IBM, etc. to restructure or reengineer their business. Many companies were slow to react and were left behind. Others were quick to respond and were able to survive and thrive in the new economy. Companies that were able to survive and thrive in the new economy.

Philippine scenario

ABS-CBN's publication under the Philippine Daily Inquirer (PDI) and Philippine Star (Philstar) are some of the best examples of companies that were able to survive and thrive in the new economy. Companies that were able to survive and thrive in the new economy.

It is important, however, that companies and employees alike must be able to adapt to the changing times. Companies that were able to survive and thrive in the new economy. Companies that were able to survive and thrive in the new economy.

Companies that were able to survive and thrive in the new economy. Companies that were able to survive and thrive in the new economy.

Best practices in strategy planning

L-EARNING MOMENTS

Tita Ilatta Pinongco

STRATEGIC PLANNING IS once again a favorite intervention of enterprise leaders. They see the economy improving and as typical of other entrepreneurs, they want to harvest the opportunities presented by growing market.

What are the best practices in strategic planning? What are the steps to planning, developing and delivering strategic planning answers?

Strategy planning defined

We have different kinds of strategic planning answers? Strategy planning has its origins in the military. It is the art of planning and directing large military movements and the operations of war". Strategic thinking is the ability to analyze how to create a competitive edge in the long run while optimizing performance in the short term. Planning allows a management team to identify where they want to be in the long term, recognize the strategies involved and anticipate potential problems and opportunities.

Why strategy planning

In today's world of accelerating change, the ability to evaluate and respond is more important than ever. Just business, is key to sustained success. Having the right strategies means that day-to-day decisions do not require the long term intent of the organization. Clear strategies allow people who work for the business to achieve unified, common directions and goals. When strategies are unclear, current business pressures and urgencies tend to focus on the present. Often, the building just following part of the future today is neglected.

Strategic planning, according to the business, can define which products or services are sold and delivered and to which customers. It establishes how to competitively and effectively sell products and services. The core of excellent strategy are sustainable financial results and outstanding customer service.

Types of strategic planning

Strategic planning can cover (to the exemption, typically led by the executive team and attended by all managers) one or more levels. On those can be done as a functional or business level, as in the case with strategic business unit planning, strategy planning for brand management or strategic planning for the introduction of an enterprise wide-system application.

Strategic planning can either be done in the first level, which is done by combination of other objectives. In its pure form, it can cover an assessment of current conditions, projecting future conditions, determining competitive positioning, evaluating values and mission and strategy formulation and developing measures and milestones. Strategic planning also, done in combination with other objectives can include issues looking or managing change or a product or issues based or the roles of the customer-partner.

Strategic planning services

Strategic planning services can focus only on a 2 to 3 day planning exercise. Or it can cover strategy deployment throughout the organization using action plans and the performance management system. One enterprise may ask for monitoring the annual plans or the progress of the strategic plan (which is usually) basis, executing the implementation or on task. Still others incorporate managing change interventions, especially in the context of workplace culture to support change like organizational restructuring.

Strategic planning steps

While the sequence of the steps may change, typical strategy planning includes the assessment of current conditions, and the understanding of strategy. It involves an assessment of the internal environment and where the company stands. Many companies have to understand the company's competitive position, define the scope of products, services and markets. Then a decision is made where one wants to focus one's resources and how the company's core strategies. At somewhere time is spent to identify and determine the measures and implementation plans and strategies. A review is also developed to regularly monitor performance and review strategy.

Strategic planning models

With so strategic planning exercises are the use of models. The choice of models depends on the nature of the enterprise. Most models focus on studying and analyzing the external environment. Michael Porter is often is possibly the most well-known of the models of Harvard models' analyses the 5 competing forces that determine the profitability of an industry. These are the bargaining power of buyers and suppliers, the barriers to entry of new entrants and substitutes and the level of rivalry among competitors.

In business where external forces are limited, many enterprises resort to research-building.

Scenario-building is doing a prediction of the future building at a number of future options, how influential people will react and decide therefore impacting events. For companies interested to explore new market segments and blue-ing industry boundaries to make competition irrelevant can move towards "blue ocean" strategies. Other companies desiring to create new competitive advantage in a knowledge era where competitive edge are key can are frameworks of Hamel and Prahalad.

Integrative enterprise development model

What we have found most useful is an integrative model called enterprise development that looks at both the business and the organization of the business. It examines the present and predicts the future looking at the interaction amongst five external environments, the internal environment of the enterprise. The integrative view allows for a co-development process that engages participants in the process of creating and sustaining future change implementation. Any new strategic planning be fruitful and productive time and will result in successful sustainable enterprise.

Strategy implementation

Strategy implementation includes internal capability assessments. Often this includes assessing business processes, examining support infrastructure systems, realigning facilities, assessing new competencies and gaps in organizational strategy.

Strategic Planning Models

- Competitive Positioning
- Scenarios
- Systems Models
- Deployment

Best Practices

- Sharp assessment of current conditions
- Creative crafting of future conditions
- Ability to handle "surprises"
- Breadth and depth of strategic planning frameworks

Implementation Challenges

- Managing time while executing strategic plans
- Managing expectations of participants
- Balancing deliverables
- Focus on process as well as content

(Tita Ilatta Pinongco is the President and CEO of Ancilla Enterprise Development Consulting, an international provider of Organizational development and Training solutions in the ASEAN region. Their solutions include strategy development and execution, managing change, leadership development, organizational transformation and human resource process. For your letters' feedback, kindly email: ailpinongco@hotmail.com.ph, or fax 526-2204. For other inquiries, please call 526-8233/526-7451.)

Divine Mercy

By Bishop Precioso D. Cantillas, SDB, DD

THE CENTRAL MESSAGE OF CHRIST TO THE WORLD IS love—God is love. God's love is expressed in a "horizontal will" of His mercy and forgiveness to whoever believes in Him and asks for it from Him and from those He has authorized to forgive sins. He has made this merciful love available for all times and for all peoples which He became man on earth. He opened it by His sacrifice, when He rose from the dead and ascended into Heaven. He left the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) for this believers to receive such healing love. Moreover, God wants that everyone who experiences the mercy of God so he can "open and forward" of such love, so that the whole world can taste the whole universe will be imbued with the Divine Mercy.

Starting from the world of work, everyone would become practitioner of the healing power of God's mercy. For this to happen, the work of One of all should realize that the job he has or found is a gift of God's love for him. When one thinks he has acquired his job through his own talents and abilities, working hard to develop them, he will tend to serve only in the sense of stepping on the others to get ahead. The workplace, too, becomes a battlefield of ambitious workers where money for others is not given any value. But when the worker in addition considers of God's love and mercy for him and for the world, then, it is easy for him to perform his tasks also in consideration of the welfare of others and not just of his own needs. The sacrifice he learns in doing his job will for better with the use of his talents himself of the sufferings and death Jesus endured for the forgiveness of our sins.

I believe that when every work is done with the intention and awareness of sharing God's love and mercy—and with the power of the Risen Lord—the world of work will be a healing and saving element in today's "sick" world.

REFLECTIONS FOR THE WORKING SOUL

Stress-free at work

By Teresa R. Tuzap, OCDS

TAKING A BREAK FROM THE USUAL WORK LAST HOLY WEEK, you may have witnessed different ways people manifest emotions for the Lenten season—from the relatively light (going to malls for the bloody ones (flagellation and actual crucifixion). Why a baptized Catholic would sins to be nailed to a cross to feel forgiveness of his sins is a puzzle for many, when all that's asked of him is sincere confession and a resolve to turn away from sinful ways. For weeks after the holidays, the penitent remorse may engage in work ethics but unspoiled hands and feet await time to heal. On the other hand, even a workaholic can go in withdrawal during lunch break on a weekday or a visit to a church on the way home from work—it doesn't open doors, walls for an intimate or spectacular occasion, and would feel an audience of one, the priest.

Recent studies in workplace health show that of the psychiatric patients in the United States, Catholics represent the smallest group. They are those due to the fact that Catholics have maintained stability in healthy and healing. Confession is something like a "rebuttal of sins" wherein the penitent becomes as once the accused, the accuser and the witness, while the priest becomes the "judge" pronouncing the sentence. It's that intimate, and unlike confiding to a friend who could not know about your sins, because of the "seal of the confessional" keeping the priest from divulging your secrets.

If workplace stress is at times due to the workplace and guilt due to our life, it is because it is not a mere human invention but a universal one mentioned by Christ Himself to inspire confidence in us:

Gospel: John 20: 19-31

And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained."

ICRC

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is an impartial, neutral and independent organization that has exclusively humanitarian mission to protect the lives and dignity of victims of war and internal violence and to provide them with assistance. It also endeavours to prevent suffering by promoting and strengthening humanitarian law and universal humanitarian principles.

The ICRC in Mindanao is looking for a suitable candidate to fill the following vacancy for:

One (01) Administrator (M/F)

(To be based in Davao City)

Function description:

- Administrates responsible for a medium structure (40 employees)
- Responsible for the administration department
- Manages the admin team (5 direct colleagues): Finance, MS, Welcome service, chauffeurs
- Reports, directly to Head of the Sub delegation of Mindanao
- Remains directly on Administrative Coordination in Manila for any technical issues
- Assumes responsibility for complex files
- Negotiates & maintains various contacts with external and up to High-level interlocutors
- Participates in the elaboration of the budget and other financial reporting
- Daily follow up of HH account (cash)
- Daily follow up of financial priorities (if requested)
- Daily follow up of administrative service (if requested)
- Supports 2 offices : Cotabato and Zamboanga

Education requirements:

- University degree, preferably in business and/or administration or equivalent by experience
- 4 years work experience in a similar function
- Very good computer skills
- Philippine nationality

Your profile:

- Proven capacity to work independently
- Management skills
- Availability to travel frequently to Cotabato and Zamboanga mainly
- Fluent or spoken and written English. Tagalog and Visayan language
- Motivated by humanitarian work
- Open-minded and able to work in a team

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Qualified applicants are requested to submit their comprehensive resume, recent HR clearance and application letter quoting letter their motivation and interest in the position as well as salary expectation to the address below not later than **May 15, 2011**.

The Administrator, ICRC, 4th floor, Central Plaza 1 Bldg., J. P. Laurel Ave., Bajada, Davao City, Philippines, or by E-mail to: **dadelegation@dav.icrc.org**

Please clearly indicate "Administrator - (your) last name - (your) First Name" as subject

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- Female
- Graduate of Behavioral Science, Law, Psychology or any 4-year Management course
- With 2 to 5 years experience in all facets of personnel management in the same capacity both as specialization either in timekeeping, compensation or benefits administration, recruitment and labor relations
- Must be able to build and maintain professional relations with people in the organization
- With excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Team-player, open-minded and able to work under pressure
- With high level of computer literacy

CUSTOMER RELATIONS SERVICE MANAGER/SUPERVISOR

Responsible for the planning, promulgation and implementation of the non-all security program of the Company.

- male/female, not over 35 years old
- male must be at least 5' 8 (1/2" and female must be at least 5' 2" in height, physically fit
- graduate of Criminology or any 4 year Business course
- with at least 1 year experience in handling security matters and personnel
- with basic knowledge in crisis management and human behavior
- with keen investigation skills, detail-oriented
- willing to be assigned in provincial branches and can work on extended hours

SELLING MANAGER / SUPERVISOR

MANAGER:
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SUPERVISOR:
Responsible for assisting the Selling Manager in achieving the business targets through effective and efficient administration of the department.

- graduate of any 4-year course, preferably Business Management
- with minimum of 2 years relevant work experience in management capacity
- a combination of education and experience to: Management/Business or related field and (3)two-years experience in retail management experience preferred
- personable, creative, innovative and with above average communication skills
- with high level of computer literacy

CUSTOMER SERVICE MANAGER / SUPERVISOR

Responsible for planning, coordinating, controlling and directing customer service operations and functions in the assigned branch department

- Female, not over 35 years old
- Graduate of any 4-year Business course
- With 2 to 3 years experience in sales and marketing, able to carry out prompt and efficient customer service

STORE CONSIGNOR SUPERVISOR

Responsible for ensuring smooth administration of store consignor activities in the assigned branch.

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In September 2010, the Government of the Republic of the Philippines signed a five-year economic development Compact with the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) making available $434 million to support the Government's aim for sustainable economic growth and poverty reduction through investments in roads, community-driven development projects, and revenue administration and reform. MCC is an innovative and independent U.S. foreign aid agency that is helping lead the fight against global poverty.

Responsible for overseeing the implementation of the country's Compact to the Millennium Challenge Account (MCA) – Philippines, a subsidiary of the Development Bank of the Philippines – Management Corporation, established through Executive Order No. 946 dated 15 December 2009 and incorporated with the Securities and Exchange Commission in January 2010.

MCA-Philippines will primarily be managed by a Board of Trustees composed of representatives from the Government and private sector, and a Management Unit of competitively hired officers/experts/staff. Headed by a Managing Director, the Management Unit is responsible for MCA-Philippines' day-to-day program management, subject to the direction and guidance of the Board.

The Millennium Challenge Account-Philippines announces the opening of the following key and support staff positions:

SECONDARY NATIONAL ROAD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (SNRDP) DIRECTOR
(re-advertisement, previous applicants need not apply)
PROJECT SPECIALIST- SNRDP
PROJECT SPECIALIST- REVENUE ADMINISTRATION REFORM PROJECT (RARP)
MONITORING AND EVALUATION SPECIALIST
FINANCE SPECIALIST
LEGAL COUNSEL

Interested applicants are required to submit a completed application form with a cover letter and a recent 2 x 2 size photo to mcaapply@gmail.com. For more information on the specific qualifications for each position, kindly visit www.mca.ph

Deadline of submission of applications: **Not later than 5:00pm, 6 May 2011.**
Late applications will not be accepted.

SNRDP Director:
Experience in management and supervisory position
With Master's degree

Bachelor's Degree and/or Advanced Degree relevant to the position

Must have for all positions:

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Proven track record in every field

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The University of Manila tops the Criminologist licensure examination

THE UNIVERSITY OF Manila has garnered the top spot in the October 2010 Criminologist licensure examination, shortly Solicitation Jr is the first placer in the recently held licensure examination on April 06, 2011. Another student, Robert Jayson Sotchaller, scampered the 8th place.

Time and again, the University of Manila has maintained its high standard of academic excellence. The recent results again clearly manifestes the prestige that the University of Manila has been known for throughout the years. This is evidenced by the passing percentage in the College of Criminology which are above the national passing rate. Some of her May 2007: passing percentage was 71.85% with a national passing rate of 35.26%, October 2007: passing percentage was 85.19% the national passing rate of 30.62, March 2008: passing percentage of 80.61% with national passing rate of 21.94%, August 2008 with a passing percentage of 1.39% with a national passing rate of 21.11%, April 2009: passing percentage of 94.12% with a national passing rate of 33.43, April 2011 passing percentage of 80.34 with combined passing percentage of 71.07%.

Dean Joe Santos Balaporia, the block of criminology has extended his wide thank congratulations to the topnotchers and the successful graduates of the University of Manila Likewise, through the cumulative efforts of the personnel and professors, the University of Manila has been consistently garnering and reaping honors. The University of Manila has been known for...

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Executive Assistant

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JUBILEE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY
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JOB OPENING

1. **BUDGET COORDINATORS (Preschool, Y1-6.)**
2. **TEACHERS (Arts, Filipino, Music, P.E., Bible / Hebrei, T.L.E.)**
3. **GUIDANCE COUNSELOR**
4. **LABORATORY TECHNICIAN**
5. **FINANCE STAFF**

Applicants must be of good Christian moral character. Submit resume with 4x6 ID picture and photocopy of Transcript of Records to Ms. Irene C. Dagenio, Human Resource Officer.

Female Office / Sales Clerk

- Fresh Graduate
- Knowledge in Bookkeeping / Encoder
- Single 20-26 years old
- Living in the area / (I ride from Sampaloc, Manila, Tagaytay, Quezon City)
- Willing to undergo training
- Bring NBI Clearance, resume 2 to 3 colored picture

Call for appointment: Cherry
or fax bio-data to 7400136

VAXINES TRADING, INC.
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1. College Graduates with good scholastic records
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Basic Salary + Allowance + Commission

Apply in person with your resume, transcript, diploma, 2x2 picture, NBI/Police clearance, 3 pcs. of 2"x2" photocopy of employment at:

Vaxines Trading, Inc.
Blk. 11 Lot 28-B, Corning St., Talon-2
(El Treco/Tri-Mart), Las Piñas
Tel. Nos. 871-4783, 872-0805

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WANTED

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS

MARIST SCHOOL MARIKINA CITY
is in need of Teachers in:

1. **Music**
2. **Araling Panlipunan**

Applicants are required to submit credentials and application to the

Office of the Student and Personnel Services (OSPS)
Monday - Friday: 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM
(MARIST SCHOOL, El Champagnat Ave., Marikina Heights, Marikina City
Tel. No. 9409536 loc. 152.

READ **JOB** Market EVERY SUNDAY

You can now checkout more jobs in INQUIRER Libre for advertising inquiries about the Job Ticker package at 897-4000 loc. 524

Save the Children

Finance and Grants Manager

Duty Station – Makati (Code: FGM)

This position reports directly to the Director of Finance and is responsible in assisting the Director of Finance in developing the annual fiscal year budget. The Finance and Grants Manager is responsible for the management, monitoring, utilization, or disbursement and control/fiscal budget up to a grant portfolio of a little less than US$10M. This includes managing of the target operating plans of the Program Offices. S/he manages the Field Office financial systems, develops and implements the training plan of the finance staff. The functions cover: Planning and Budgeting, Financial Reporting, Banking and Control, Grants Management, and People management and staff development in the Finance team.

The Finance and Grants Manager ensures effectiveness in the flow of funds to the field offices, timely liquidation of external grants to all the operational grants. S/he also ensures availability of fund. This individual leads the team in developing the request of grants and subsequent liaison from the Donor Office for accurate and sustainable accounting of grant transactions. S/he is also responsible for the accurate and timely submission of financial reports to Home Office, donors and external auditors as applicable.

Person Specification and Competencies:

- At least six years experience in management level or equivalent including managing a high level team.
- CPA with 5 years work experience, 3 years in a managerial capacity in finance department of an international development organization with non-profit (voluntary sector) or advantage). Technical competencies include budgeting, planning of a complex fund environment.
- Knowledge in Accounting Software (Navision or Agresso) preferred although not required.
- High sense of urgency, with strong personal skills with ability to multi-task with deadlines. Adaptable and flexible.
- Proficient in written and verbal English. Strong interpersonal skills, confident and effective in representing client.

Education Advisor (Basic Education)

Duty Station – Makati (Code: BE Advisor)

This Education Advisor serves as the lead person in the Philippines responsible for enhancing program quality in the core program area of basic education and provides technical support to the country program in the delivery of high quality, relevant and effective learning in out-of-school youth, early childhood development, multilingual education, and literacy/reading skills development.

- Technical focus includes school improvement planning, teacher training, curriculum development, and materials development, multilingual education, and literacy/reading skills development.
- Coordinates closely with colleagues in Child Protection, Health, and Emergencies domestic programs to ensure their effective integration of programs for optimal outcome. May include travel to other countries for technical support.
- Is part of the larger Technical Advisors Unit in the National Office together with other advisors in child protection and health.

Areas of responsibility include:

- Program quality assurance and technical support
- Program development along various international and national priorities, including proposal preparation
- Networking, partnership, and advocacy, representing Save the Children in various meetings and advocacy events; maintaining partnership in cooperation with various agencies
- Monitoring and evaluation, refining strategies and interventions for best execution

Person Specification and Competencies:

- At least five years experience in basic education project implementation or management
- Master's degree in education, or equivalent experience
- Experience in the technical focus areas listed above; experience under an emergency context (reading/basic education) an advantage
- Experience in working with Parent-Teacher-Community Associations (PTCA), School Boards (SB-SDMC), and other levels / issues in Philippine basic education, an advantage
- Love deal with various levels of education stakeholders—from policy makers to field level practitioners
- Proven skills in program development & design, including design & delivery, community facilitation, training
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Proficient in the use of MS Office and other software (Word, Excel, PowerPoint)
- A team player, willing to work long hours (especially in the preparation of proposals, reports and deliverables)
- Open and able to travel to work within Metro Manila and in project sites in Mindanao

Competencies required of all positions:

- Understanding of how the Children's rights and mandate and a commitment to its objectives; willing to adopt Save the Children values/principles; and commitment to program/organizational accountability and child protection
- Capacity to work effectively in cross-cultural teams and in a complex environment
- High sense of urgency, time management skills with ability to meet tight deadlines, flexibility and resilience

Interested should be received by email: HR_Recruitment@savethechildren.org.ph or before May 14, 2011. Please indicate in the subject line of your email the position you are applying for. Please include in your application letter why you are applying for this position and why you are suitable for the position, such as relevant training certificates. We will evaluate applications as they arrive and finalize support documents / candidates. Applications will be reviewed as received. Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted to confirm participation in interviews.

Emergency Response Roster

(Code: ERR – Field of Confidence)
(Current place of Residence – City/Province, Region)

This is a call-in resource and deployment of trained to those with experience in emergency response or relief among communities in the general and specific emergency context of:

General Areas - Safeguarding children in an emergency, Conducting/overseeing rapid/basic needs assessment, Providing organizational leadership in an emergency, Performing effective communications in an emergency, Coordinating with humanitarian actors in an emergency, Ensuring safety and security in an emergency, Performing basic logistics in an emergency

Specific Areas: Child protection, Child safeguarding, Data / needs assess, Emergencies, Communications, Community mobilization, Coordination, Disaster Response Team, Disaster Risk Reduction, Emergency Food Security, Finance, Food Aid, Food Preparation, Health and Nutrition, Hygiene Promotion, Landmines / explosive hazard, Monitoring and Evaluation, Procurement, Work management, Water Sanitation Hygiene Engineering

Please indicate relative standing the code (ERR/Field of Competence example) in order and check here and City / Province and Region or country examples. (Example: ERR Field Promotion, Calamba City/Laguna, Region IV-A/Philippines)

Save the Children is the world's leading independent organization for children, working in over 120 countries around the world. Our mission is to inspire breakthrough in the way the world treats children, and to achieve immediate and lasting change in their lives. **Save the Children** also provides a safety net every child deserves the right to survive, protection, development and participation.

Save the Children rescues and protects the rights of children from emergency relief to long-term development. We work directly with children, families, communities, civil society organizations, and national and local governments to build lasting solutions to the problems children face. **Save the Children** is the Philippines' largest child rights organization with offices in over 40 provinces. Our children from rural and urban communities, indigenous peoples, and children affected by armed conflict and natural disasters. Our programs in over 20 provinces work directly with children affected by armed conflict and natural disasters—from work directly through young advocates. We focus on communities in conflict areas, design programs that increase awareness in participation, and make education relevant to the realities of children's lives. **Save the Children** addresses key issues of children's rights in the Philippines by programming in the areas of education, the Human rights, Child Protection, Health and Nutrition, Education, Emergencies and Child Protection Rights Governance.

Save the Children has been working for more than 30 years in the Philippines, and its former 40 years worldwide. Today, we have offices in Mindanao, Cebu, Metro Manila, Davao City, Koronadal City, South Cotabato, Cotabato City, and satellite offices in Bicol and Bohol.

C.S.C. MANILA, INC.

PRESENTLY EXPANDING ITS MANNED FLEET OF VESSELS IS CURRENTLY IN NEED OF THE FOLLOWING:

OPERATIONS MANAGER/EXECUTIVE ASST.

- Male or Female (not over 40 years of age)
- Previous work experience on either a sea (offshore and bulk vessels) or land-based organization
- Excellent English communication skills both oral and written
- Holding strong recruitment capabilities and can work under pressure

ACCOUNTANT

- Male or Female (not over 40 years of age)
- Graduate of BS Accountancy with good academic records
- Preferably CPA with accounting work experience on a supervisory level
- Well-versed in Financial Reporting Standards
- With exposure on handling BIR Assessment/ Taxes and Licensing
- Knowledgeable in BIR Revenue Circulars and other statutory regulations
- Experience in manning industry is an edge
- With good communication skills and can work under pressure

ACCOUNTING CLERK

- Male or Female, Graduate of BS Accountancy
- Preferably with general accounting work experience in a manning company
- Adept to computer Accounting Software and Allotment Payroll System
- With good communication skills and can work under pressure

Interested parties can send their application letter and CV to Mr. Virtus Serafico at operations@csc-manila.com.ph or personally visit our office at 3rd Flr. Enerpro Bldg., 1181 Leverica St., cor. P. Quintos Ave., Malate, Manila.

We are in need of professionals who are willing to respond to the call of SERVICE...

JOB VACANCIES

SOCIAL MARKETING ASSOCIATE
(Partners Acquisition Specialist)

Qualifications:
- Graduate of any 4-year course (preferably Marketing, Com. Arts, Mass Com., Business Ad.)
- At least 2 years experience in sales & marketing functions
- Very satisfactory oral and written skills in English & Filipino
- Very satisfactory presentation skills

RESEARCH & ARCHIVE SPECIALIST

Qualifications:
- College graduate or at least has completed 3 yrs. in college prof. degree, (Library Science, Social Work/Ad., Com. Arts, Mass Com.)
- 1 to 2 yrs. experience in research work and archiving functions
- Satisfactory oral and written skills in English & Filipino

PR, COMMUNICATION AND EVENTS SPECIALIST

Qualifications:
- College graduate prof. degree, Marketing, Mass Com., Com. Arts, Business Ad.)
- 1 to 4 yrs. experience in press/media coverage, documentation, recording of events and projects, public relations activities, news gathering and press releases
- Very satisfactory oral and written skills in English & Filipino

MMS/SOCIAL NETWORK SPECIALIST

Qualifications:
- College graduate or at least has completed 3 yrs. in college prof. IT, Comp. Programming, Comp. Sci., Mass Com., Com. Arts, Web Design
- 1 to 2 yrs. Experience in website tasks and other IT maintenance
- Satisfactory oral and written skills in English & Filipino

- Adept in using basic computer programs
- Excellent work attitude (highly motivated, can work long hours when needed, resourceful & creative with leadership skills a plus)

Please e-mail your comprehensive resume at job@carfilantrade.org.ph

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THE EVERLIVING CO., INC.
is looking for the following:

ACCOUNTING CLERK
(Must be an accounting graduate)

CHAUFFEUR (Driver)
(Must be High School Graduate / College Level)

CUSTOMER SERVICE CLERK

MARKETING ASSISTANT

RECEPTIONIST
- Must be a College graduate
- Must be with appearance
- Must be willing to work long hours
- Minimum 5'4 in tall in shoes
- Fresh grad / 2 years experience

Interested applicants may submit their resume at

THE EVERLIVING CO., INC.
Unit 3, Jacinto Building, Quezon Ave.
cor. San Isidro
Quezon City
Email address: hrd@everliving.com.ph
Telefax No. 372-94-31 (DID)

Republic of the Philippines
CATANDUANES STATE COLLEGE
Virac, Catanduanes
e-mail: catsc@mozcom.com; www.catsc@yahoo.com.ph
(052) 811-35-54 • Website: http://www.catsc.edu.ph

NOTICE OF BOARD AND CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The Catanduanes State College Board of Trustees hereby announces that the following positions are open and invites qualified applicants to apply for the vacancies:

Applicants must possess the following minimum qualifications:

1. Not less than Fifty-Five (55) years old and not more than sixty-one (61) years old on the date of application for the position
2. Graduate from a recognized college or university
3. Holder of Master's Degree from a reputable higher education institution
4. Possess at least one (1) year experience in administration of faculty or instruction, preferably in a position at least one rank higher than the position
5. For applicants who have not previously served as Vice President, he/she must not have committed any act which would disqualify him/her from being appointed to such position, whether the penalty is more than or less than six months
6. Must pass the Board of Regents' Qualifying Examination
7. Must be a Filipino citizen of good moral character and of proven ability for the responsible control of the Board of Trustees, shall be allowed to the extent he/she appointed for the next succeeding term

An applicant who does not meet one of the above-mentioned minimum qualifications and further cannot support his/her claims/statements in these minimum qualifications shall not be considered for the Search Process.

The selected applicants must submit the following documentary requirements not later than 5:00 p.m. of working days from the date of publication and must be made of the following documentary requirements:

- Personal Application Letter addressed to the Search Committee
  - Chairperson: Dr. Ruperto P. Tupaz, Jr.
  - Vice-Chairperson: Dr. Miguel Gonzales
  - Secretary: Dr. Rodolfo C. Del Rosario
  - 2-3 Campus Chiefs: Quezon City
- Detailed curriculum vitae (CV)
- Certification of Employment in support of the same stated in the CV
- Proposed Vision, Mission and Development Goals for the College (not more than 5 pages)
- Three (3) original letters of recommendation (not more than 3 years old)
- Original Certificate of Clearance/Clearances from the following government agencies, especially on the date of application and not earlier than 30 days prior to the date of filing of application, including that for applicant from succeeding administrative and/or criminal cases:
  a. Clearance from
  b. Clearance from
  c. Clearance from
  d. Clearance from
  e. Clearance from
- Certified true copies of Transcript of Records from the applicant's graduate university/college
- Birth certificate
- Medical Certificate of Physical Fitness issued by a government physician or from any government hospital or medical clinic not earlier than the date of application
- Result of Drug test certificate conducted by a government physician or from any government hospital or medical clinic not earlier than the date of the applicant's personally application
- Duly accomplished and notarized CSC Form 212

Deadline for submission of applications/documents shall be on June 6, 2011 (Friday) 5:00 p.m.

Applicants may submit their applications to:

Dra. Milagros C. Bernardo
Chairperson, Search Committee - CatSC Presidency
Catanduanes State College
Virac, Catanduanes
Attention: Dr. Ruperto P. Tupaz
Designated Secretariat, CatSC Committee Secretariat

or to

Engr. Marilou T. Bernardo
Chairperson, Search Committee - CatSC Presidency
Catanduanes State College
Virac, Catanduanes
Attention: Dr. Ruperto P. Tupaz
Designated Secretariat, CatSC Committee Secretariat

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
Tel. Nos. 925-4625 to 35, 929-6626 to 29
Fax Nos. 920-2256, 920-2257, 924-1145
Website: http://www.denr.gov.ph; e-mail: pmo@denr.gov.ph

PHILIPPINE CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION PROJECT (PHILCCAP) – PHASE I

CONSULTING SERVICES
FOR COASTAL TRAINING
REQUEST for EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

1. The Government of the Philippines, through the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), has received a grant from the Global Environment Facility for the implementation of the Philippine Climate Change Adaptation Project (PHILCCAP) – Phase I, and intends to apply part of the proceeds of this Grant to payment of the contract for the Consultancy Services for Project Manager (PM).
2. The Project aims to develop and demonstrate approaches that would enable ecosystems and communities in the territories of the recipient to adapt to the potential impacts of climate variability and change.
3. The DENR now invites eligible individual Consultant which has capability and extensive experience in providing the required services to evaluate their interest in providing the services mentioned. Interested individuals must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services.
4. The Project Manager shall be responsible for the overall and day-to-day operations and management of the project under the supervision/guidance of DENR-PCO (or oversight office).
5. The consultant must be a holder of Master's Degree in environmental sciences or public administration course (preferably with a general technical understanding of integrated ecosystems or watershed management, climate change, and/or environmental governance), with at least 5 years relevant experience in managing projects, foreign-funded preferably. With experience working with local government units and national government agencies. Familiar at international level. Must have Good Communication Skills.
6. A consultant will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the World Bank's Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers, May 2004 (revised 2006), and
7. Interested consultants may obtain further information from the BID and Awards Committee for Foreign-Assisted Projects (BAC-FAPs) Secretariat c/o Ms. Daniel Hellen C. Dimaandal, Head NEDO Procurement Unit, NEDO Building, DENR Compound, Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City, with telephone no. 925-629-6626 up to 29 local 3006 or 3007/920-2256/920-2257 (from 8:00 am to 5:00 p.m.).
8. Interested individual consultants must submit their expressions of interest, along with his/her curriculum vitae (CV) addressed to the undersigned c/o the Secretariat, NEDO Building, DENR Compound, Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City, not later than 5:00 p.m. of May 24, 2011.
9. The DENR reserves the right to accept or reject any expression of interest, and to annul the procurement process and reject all proposals at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected consultants.

(sgd.) **ERNESTO L. GUNIGUNDO, JR.**
Undersecretary for Policy and Planning
and Chairperson, BAC-FAPs

XDE

Xdress Delivery Express Inc., a domestic cargo forwarding and trucking company established in 1999, is looking for aggressive and energetic team players to form part of a continuously growing freight forwarding company and join its pool of skilled and dynamic personnel for the position of

HR/Admin Officer

- Candidates must possess minimum Bachelor's/College Degree, in Psychology, Philosophy, Social Sciences, Sociology, Human Resource Management or equivalent.
- Must be Male/Female, not over 35 years old.
- With minimum 2-4 year(s) working experience in the related field is required for this position, supervisory capacity.
- Team player, Proactive, Good & Deadline oriented, willing to extend hours and do field work if needed be a must.
- With proficient written and oral communication skills.
- Can work with minimum supervision.

Interested applicants are requested to send their comprehensive resume to:
Email: jmartinez@xde.com.ph

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

QUALIFICATIONS:
- Candidates must have at least two years of work experience in collection/sales functions/related fields
- Must possess a Bachelor's degree in any course, preferably Accountancy, or any management course
- Knowledgeable in Microsoft Office, Excel
- Must have excellent communication skills (English and Filipino)
- Must be trustworthy, responsible, result-highly motivated with leadership qualities and must be able to work in a team
- Willing to adapt to the company's unique culture

RESPONSIBILITIES:
- Weekly routine must be rendered on
- Conduct effective collection through staff supervision
- Miscellaneous responsibilities as may be assigned
- Coordinate with customers for their concerns
- Other miscellaneous tasks related to management

15K Starting Salary + Great Perks & Benefits!

Interested applicants may send their resume to:
Email: jobs@cashalo.com
Contact No.: 0917 894 4 CASH (2274)
Attention to: Ms. Jessica Ramos

GRAPHIC DESIGNER

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

Responsibilities:
- Design, revision and updates of direct mail creatives
- Creation of banners and other web marketing materials

Requirements:
- High level of proficiency in Adobe InDesign CS3, Photoshop CS3 and Illustrator CS3
- Good command of the English language

Office Location: M Homes, Pasolanan

Starting salary is between PhP12,000 - PhP15,000 depending on qualifications, with increased benefits after a successful 3-month probationary period.

Please send your **resume** and **3-5 work samples** to design@fitbusiness.com before May 15, 2011.

PUBLISHING STAFF FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

- Art Director for Graphic Artist
- Editorial Assistant
- Accounting supervisor and clerk

Interested applicants may send their application and resume to:
- Dr. Carlito - Area Administrator
- Lilibeth Bautista-Operator
- Frank Bravo - (0918) 6xx-xxxx

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

- ✓ **RECEPTIONIST**
- ✓ **ENCODER / TYPIST**
- ✓ **BILLING CLERK / ASSISTANT**

- Females, 20-28 years old, with pleasing personality
- College graduate, preferably with related experience but fresh graduates are welcome to apply

Please submit your requirements with latest 2x2 ID picture at 4th Floor, ACT Towers, 128 K.V. De La Costa Street, Makati City
Attention to : JULIET A. ESPINOSA

International Labour Organization
would like to invite qualified women and men for the following job opportunities:

(1) Administrative Secretary
(1) Administrative and Finance Assistant

For full job descriptions and other details, please visit www.ilo.org/manila

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ATTENTION

UNDERGRAD NURSES
MEDTECH NURSES
STUDENT NURSES

GRADUATES OF ANY COURSE
HIGH SCHOOL GRAD
UNDER GRAD

REQUIREMENTS: ANY COURSE / WITH 1ST GRADE OR ARTICLE OF ADJUDICATION
MUST BE 17-27 YEARS OLD / NO BOYFRIEND / MUST WEIGHT 49-57 KILOS / SCORE 85 UP / MUST HAVE GOOD PERSONALITY / WITH GOOD FIGURE OR PROPORTION

VMC VISA & IMMIGRATION CONSULTANCY

A Prestigious
Architectural & Interiors Firm
is in search for a design team composed of dynamic, talented & energetic individuals

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- B.S. Architecture graduate
- 2 years min. experience

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PLEASE E-MAIL YOU RESUME TO:
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A Law Office in Ortigas Business Center specializing in the practice of ENERGY LAW is looking for an associate preferably 2011 lawyer.

Please call +632 910 1587/910 0808 or drop your resume at Units 1809-1810, Tycoon Centre Condominium, Pearl Drive, Ortigas Center, Pasig City 1605.

TELUS International Philippines participates in GK Bayani Challenge 2011

GO RAMP OFF TO COMMITMENT

As build and sustain strong communities, tele-contact center and outsourcing services provider TELUS International Philippines (TIP) joined this year's Edward Kennedy-Ortiz Bayani Challenge, April 4-5 in Barangay Ibaan, Batangas.

This is the first time TIP participated in the Bayani Challenge, although its partnership with GK goes back to 2007.

"Through our long-standing partnership with GK, our team has enjoyed the opportunity to build new homes to supports a fresh start for families throughout Manila, said Jason Wanda, TIP president. "Joining the GK Bayani Challenge in Tabo-Tabo is an avenue for us to even more to support this organization's important work of enhancing lives of other people in other parts of the country."

Started in 2006, the GK Bayani Challenge is an annual two-day bid where teams from a wide range of organizations take on a task that helps create a community and foster friendships among GK partners. This year's challenge, called "Kalinga sa Kapuso," aimed to build six homes in Tabo-Tabo that would be held in a typhoon by showing acts of volunteerism and bayanihan.

Thirty teams of 10 members each participated in the challenge, with each team tasked to build 1 house for a selected family. Over 300 families in Barangay Ibaan benefited from the project.

This TIP team is composed of 11 TIP members and two customer representatives of the TELUS/GK Villages supported by TIP. Participants were selected based on the frequency of their participation and volunteerism efforts in 2010 towards building TELUS/GK Villages, island grooming, school and family building, lectures or numbers and feeding for Village residents, medical/dental-outreach consultancy, team-building, games and sports, and a clinic for the children. To support these events' participation in the challenge, TIP provided the participants' transportation, lodging, food and drinks, as well as the construction tools needed.

According to Ms. Ichelle, corporate social responsibility (CSR) is part of the TELUS corporate culture. "We want our team members to take pride in their contribution to a broader cause, not only to the company. Our partnership with GK allows us, as a company, to support our 'tayo dito' where we feel philosophy and play a part in nurturing poverty and building a better nation."

Within the partnership with GK, TIP built the first TELUS GK Village, which has 71 houses and is currently under 1st Leaf year the construction of the second TELUS GK Village started with 10 houses, while 5 were completed and turned over in December. TIP has committed 200 houses by the end of 2012.

Above are: (left) TELUS International Philippines team members carries a sack filled with construction materials; (right) The TIP team at the GK Bayani Challenge in front of the house which they built in five days.

WILL OPEN SOON AUTHENTIC JAPANESE RESTAURANT AND YAKIMIKU, IS IN NEED OF:

TEL.: 8-[illegible]/8-[illegible]

KITCHEN COOK
SUSHI COOK
VALET PARKER
WAITRESS
CASHIER
KITCHEN HELPER (part-time)

APPLY AT 806 ARNAIZ AVE., MAKATI (NEAR DON BOSCO CHURCH)
INTERVIEW FROM 2:00 PM

[illegible]

AWAITING JUNIOR ENGINEERS

Male 20-30 years old
Civil Engineer or other field of Engineering
Strong Personality
[illegible]
Tel. [illegible]
e-mail to: [illegible]

MARKETING ASSISTANTS
ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES
SALES DESIGNERS
GENERAL CLERKS

- Pleasing personality
- Experience in Furniture industry advantage
- Basic computer skills necessary

Apply on-hand/ resume to:

[illegible]

You can now checkout more jobs in INQUIRER Libre!

SMEC

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

[illegible]

Bayer CropScience

Our Sales and Marketing Group is in need of:

Sales Excellence Manager

All applicants should have the following qualifications:

Education:
- Graduate of any 4-year course
- Agriculture background an advantage, but not required

Experience:
- Minimum 5 years experience in Coaching and Training Development
- Solid Sales Background in Fast Moving Consumer Goods companies an advantage
- Strong Experience in Leading and Managing Teams
- Field Promo Experience an advantage

Skills:
- Well-versed in Sales Motivation, Negotiation and Tactics trainings
- Excellent Communication Skills

Other Qualifications:
- Knows How To Drive, Computer Literate

ONLY QUALIFIED CANDIDATES are requested to email their resume with pictures at [illegible] or send it to Human Resource Department, 3F Bayer House, Cauayan Industrial Estate, and Columbia City not later than May 15, 2011.

A leading company in its industry continues to grow and urgently needs the following:

- Secretary (female, fluent in English)
- Computer Graphic Artist (Photoshop)
- Sales & Marketing Officers
- Usherettes / Models
- Customer Service Providers

You can earn a lot without working a graveyard shift or compromising your health & social life. Spread your wings! This is your defining moment. Fresh graduates are welcome.

Please email your resume with picture to thehrmanager.pmsa@gmail.com

More employment opportunities in today's JOB MARKET ..... on Section N

Every Sunday with the JOB MARKET, PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

CLASSIFIEDS

Industry workers bat for employment, job security

[illegible]LABOR Irrawaan Industries, affiliated with Union Network Philippines (UNP), will celebrate Labor Day in tandem with the Trade Union Congress of the Philippines (TUCP), as they voice concerns on the need to sustain and enhance employment and uphold job security in these trying times.

The UNP led by the National Union of Bank Employees (NUBE) with Jose P. Ursal, Jr as national president, will ask the government to heed their call for employment preservation, job security, respect for the rule of law, especially on inter-union and intra-union disputes, and put an end to contractualization and outsourcing, to cases where subcontracting is inevitable, no worker's affected would have to be consulted, the UNP said.

The joint labor day assembly will be held at the Coneta Industrial Complex, Pasay City in the afternoon on the Harina, "Employment and Job Security." Prior to the assembly, workers will gather at DOE Convention, Mall of Asia, Pasay City for the Jeep Fest.

The UNP unions various sectors of the service industry such as banking and insurance, commerce and distributive services, telecommunications, public, graphical and printing, private-owned hospitals and public utilities. Headed by Jose P. Ursal, Jr. the UNP has 14 affiliates with more than 50,000 members.

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Rural Power Project – [illegible]
Project ID No. [illegible]-REPAR 3C1
Isabela and Cagayan

INVITATION TO BID

The Department of Energy (DOE) has received financing from Global Environment Facility (GEF) through the World Bank towards the cost of the Rural Power Project (RPP), and intends to apply part of the proceeds to payments under the contract for:

Lot No.	Qty.	Item/Description	Physical Site Requirements (date, schedules)	Delivery, Installation/ Interconnection, Commissioning, and Maintenance Period
1	150 PV systems	Supply, delivery, installation, rehabilitation, commissioning and maintenance of PV systems in 42 barangays located in Palawan and Aklan	May 2,000	120 days for delivery & installation; 24 months for Maintenance (all) months after commissioning
2	75 PV systems	Supply, delivery, installation, rehabilitation, commissioning and maintenance of PV systems in 21 barangays located in Zamboanga Peninsula and Negros Occ.		120 days for delivery & installation; 24 months for Maintenance (all) months after commissioning

The DOE now invites bids for the above-stated goods and services. Bidders should have completed, within the past three (3) years from the date of submission and receipt of bids, a contract similar to the Project. The description of an eligible Bidder is contained in Section II of the Bidding Documents, Instructions to Bidders (ITB).

Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using a non-discretionary "post-bid" criterion as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act (RA) 9184, otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act". Bidding is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country that grant reciprocal rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to RA 5183 and subject to concurrence with the GPPB.

Interested bidders may obtain further information from Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corporation and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday to Friday.

A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested bidders beginning on [illegible] 2011 from the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of TWO THOUSAND PESOS ONLY (Php2,000.00). The method of payment will be either cash or check. The Bidding Documents shall be received personally by the prospective Bidder or his authorized representative.

The Bid Documents may also be downloaded free from the website of the Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System (PhilGEPS) and PSALM Corporation. Bids submitted by the prospective bidders using Bid Documents from the website will be accepted provided that Bidders shall have paid the non-refundable fee for the Bidding Documents before the submission of their bids.

The Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corporation will hold a Pre-Bid Conference on [illegible] 2011 at 10:30 AM at the 9th Floor, Seminar Building, 1199 Apolinario St., Makati City which shall be open to all interested parties who have purchased the Bidding Documents.

Bids must be addressed to the address below on or before [illegible] 2011, 10:00 AM. All Bids must be accompanied by a bid security in any of the acceptable forms and in the amount stated in ITB Clause 18.

Bid opening shall be on [illegible] 2011 at 10:30 AM at the 9th Floor, Seminar Building, 1199 Apolinario St., Makati City. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address below. Late bids shall not be accepted.

The Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corporation reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

For further information, please refer to:

ATTY. CORNELIO E. TOLENTINO
Chairperson, Bids and Awards Committee (BAC)
Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corporation
9th Floor, Seminar Building, 1199 Apolinario St., Makati City
Tel. (02)[illegible]
e-mail: [illegible]
Please visit our website: [illegible]

(Sgd.) ATTY. CORNELIO E. TOLENTINO
BAC Chairperson

(Sgd.) ASST. SECRETARY RAMON ALLAN V. OCA
Chairman, BOD Bids and Awards Committee

PSALM Power Sector Assets & Liabilities Management Corporation

INVITATION TO BID

Procurement of Office Supplies and Materials
for Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corporation for CY 2011

1. The Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corporation (PSALM) Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) invites prospective bidders duly registered with the Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System (PhilGEPS), Procurement Service and through public bidding for the procurement of Office Supplies and Materials ("the Goods") for PSALM Corporation for CY 2011, through its CY 2011 Corporate Operating Budget. PSALM intends to apply the sum of TWO MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (PHP2,700,000.00) being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to payments under the contract for Procurement of Office Supplies as indicated in the PSALM Corporation. Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at bid opening.
2. Delivery of the Goods is required as indicated in the Warehouse Sheet of the Bidding Documents. Bidders should have completed, within two (2) years from the date of submission and receipt of bids, a contract similar to the Project. The description of an eligible Bidder is contained in Section II of the Bidding Documents, Instructions to Bidders (ITB).
3. Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using a non-discretionary "post-bid" criterion as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act (RA) 9184, otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act". Bidding is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country that grant reciprocal rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to RA 5183 and subject to concurrence with the GPPB.
4. Interested bidders may obtain further information from Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corporation and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday to Friday.
5. A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested bidders beginning on [illegible] 2011 from the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of TWO THOUSAND PESOS ONLY (Php2,000.00). The method of payment will be either cash or check. The Bidding Documents shall be received personally by the prospective Bidder or his authorized representative.

   The Bid Documents may also be downloaded free from the websites of the Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System (PhilGEPS) and PSALM Corporation. Bids submitted by the prospective bidders using Bid Documents from the website will be accepted provided that Bidders shall have paid the non-refundable fee for the Bidding Documents before the submission of their bids.
6. The Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corporation will hold a Pre-Bid Conference on [illegible] 2011 at 10:30 AM at the 9th Floor, Seminar Building, 1199 Apolinario St., Makati City which shall be open to all interested parties who have purchased the Bidding Documents.
7. Bids must be addressed to the address below on or before [illegible] 2011, 10:00 AM. All Bids must be accompanied by a bid security in any of the acceptable forms and in the amount stated in ITB Clause 18.
8. Bid opening shall be on [illegible] 2011 at 10:30 AM at the 9th Floor, Seminar Building, 1199 Apolinario St., Makati City. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address below. Late bids shall not be accepted.
9. The Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corporation reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.
10. For further information, please refer to:

    ATTY. CORNELIO E. TOLENTINO
    Chairperson, Bids and Awards Committee (BAC)
    Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corporation
    9th Floor, Seminar Building, 1199 Apolinario St., Makati City
    Tel. (02)[illegible]
    e-mail: [illegible]
    Please visit our website: [illegible]

(Sgd.) ATTY. CORNELIO E. TOLENTINO
BAC Chairperson

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Warehouses

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Office Space

- Along Access Road, Multinational Village, Parañaque City very near the NAIA Airport and C-5 Extension Road.
- Commercial Spaces at the ground floor approximately 139 square meters each unit. Office spaces at the second and third floors 50 to 62 square meters. Ample parking spaces.
- Male and Female Comfort Rooms on every floor.
- 24-hour security
- Warehousing spaces also available: 1,000 sq. meters with loading bay area and provision for office or sub-storage space; 300 to 400 sq. meter space, and a 207 sq. meter space for light items.

For interested parties, please call
822-1053, 806-0789, or 806-2347.

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT
Regional Office No. IV-A
31 Underpass Site, E. Rizal Avenue, Caloocan City
Telefax Nos. (02) 332-3252
May 01, 2011

NOTICE OF FILING OF APPLICATION FOR ALIEN EMPLOYMENT PERMIT (AEP)

Notice is hereby given that the following companies/employers have filed with this Regional Office applications for Alien Employment Permit(s):

	Name and Address of Company/Employer	Name of Foreign National/Citizenship	Position
1.	MEGA PRESPECS PHILIPPINES CORPORATION (Formerly Technopark) Binan, Laguna	Mr. Yoshihiro Kobashi Japanese	Technical Advisor (Tools and Jigs Fabrication)
2.	AMKOR TECHNOLOGY PHILIPPINES, INC. (Formerly Technopark) Binan, Laguna	Mr. Jae Yull Lee Korean	Senior Manager (OS Assembly/Line SPC)
3.	TOREX PHILIPPINES CORPORATION Cabuyao Int'l. Technology Park, Brgy. Sto. Langkawas, Cabuyao, Laguna	Mr. Tsuguoki Yamamoto Japanese	Manufacturing Engineer Manager (Process Engineering & ECS)
4.	CYPRESS MANUFACTURING LIMITED (SPC) Binan, Laguna	Ms. Antonette Rosita Mercadillo Filipino	Assistant Manufacturing Technologist I
5.	J.S.I. PHILIPPINES CORPORATION Phase 1, Carmelray Industrial Park 1, Brgy. Sto. Domingo, Calamba, Laguna	Mr. Yuichi Masuda Japanese	President
6.	J.S.I. PHILIPPINES CORPORATION Phase 1, Carmelray Industrial Park 1, Brgy. Sto. Domingo, Calamba, Laguna	Ms. Sotoko Ishikawa Japanese	Administrative Manager
7.	KANSAI PAINT PHILIPPINES, INC. (SPC) Brgy. Pulong Santa Cruz, Laguna	Mr. Kenji Kobayashi Japanese	President and General Manager
8.	AJ CONTRACTING SYSTEM SERVICE INC. (Formerly Ebara) Brgy. Halang, Calamba City, Laguna	Mr. Masaaki Miyano Japanese	Marketing Manager
9.	OPTO PHILIPPINES, INC. (SPC) Calamba City, Laguna	Mr. Thein Bee Wah Korean	CEO Manager
10.	OPTO PHILIPPINES, INC. (SPC) Calamba City, Laguna	Mr. Ilyo Chun Kim Korean	Corporate Engineering Manager
11.	TSC STAMPING, INC. 1012, Rosario, Cavite	Mr. Kiyoshi Umemoto Japanese	Factory Manager
12.	S & S PRECISION INC. (SPC) Brgy. San Rafael, San Pedro, Laguna	Mr. Seung Min Moon Korean	Design Manager

If you have any information/opinion in the above mentioned applications please communicate with the Regional Director.

ATTY. RICARDO C. MARTINEZ, JR. CESO III
Regional Director

INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The Philippine Business for Social Progress (PBSP), the Principal Recipient in the Philippines of the Global Fund to Fight Tuberculosis, is inviting qualified individuals and institutions for short term consulting services for:

Conduct of Tuberculosis (TB) Mortality Studies in the Philippines

A study to determine the fraction of TB deaths captured by the vital registry and to estimate TB Mortality.

To express interest, individuals/institutions must accomplish the following:

1. Letter of interest (indicating which of the abovementioned services is most preferred)
2. For Individuals:
   a. Detailed curriculum vitae and team composition
   b. Copies of sample work
3. For Institutions:
   a. BIR registration
   b. Organizational profile
   c. History of similar projects undertaken & Consultant's Pool
4. Testimony or statement of availability for the services from June 2011 to May 2012

Documents (electronic copies only) must be submitted no later than **06 May 2011** to eric.camacho@gmail.com and/or pbsp@ilt@gmail.com.

Qualified individuals or organization will receive copies of the Terms of Reference (TOR). They will be asked to submit proposals no later than **20 May 2011** to:

Mr. Eric E. Camacho
Program Manager – The Global Fund
Philippine Business for Social Progress
Real corner Magallanes Streets, Intramuros, Manila

Shortlisted applicants will receive notification and will be asked to present before a panel from the TB Task Force for Special Studies by June 2011.

Sustaining TB Control and Ensuring Access to Comprehensive Quality TB Care Project
PBSP
The Global Fund

CONDO/TOWNHOUSE

FOR LEASE

FOR LEASE
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3. COMMERCIAL SPACE
4. COMMERCIAL LAND

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CARS

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CARS FOR RENT

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HOUSE & LOT

BUILDING

MEMORIAL LOT

CONDO/TOWNHOUSE

LOT

BUSINESS RENTALS

APARTMENT

ROOM & BOARD

ROOM & BOARDERS

MANPOWER

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE OR RENT

CONDO/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE/RENT

APARTMENT FOR SALE/RENT

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

HEAVY EQUIPMENT

WANTED TO BUY

BUY • SELL • PAWN
ROLEX
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PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF LOSS

ANNOUNCEMENT

BUSINESS FOR SALE

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Legal Notice

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

FEMALE

MALE/FEMALE

PROPERTIES FOR FORECLOSURE AUCTION

Our Group of Companies invites everyone to bid at the public auctions for the foreclosure sale of the following properties:

TCT No.	Location	Type	Land Area sq.m. (more or less)	Intended Mortgagee Bid (Php)	Date and Time of Auction	Place of Auction
T-123870	Located on the northwest side of Juan Dela Cruz Street (extension), within District of Taril, Davao City. The site is adjacent of the PLDT Office, just across Doña Carmen Davao City High School.	Vacant Residential Land	510	1,651,000	May 05, 2011 10:00 a.m.	Main entrance of the Hall of Justice, Ecoland, Davao City
T-62213	Located on the northeast side of Guardian Street, within Brgy. Dalian, District of Taril, Davao City. The site is about 50 meters northwest from the corner of Guardian and Andaya Streets, 250 meters northwest from Taril Fish Port, 900 meters southeast from Toril District Hall or about 11 km. from Davao City Hall.	Vacant Residential Land	900	506,000		
T-81798	Located within Brgy. Tamugan, Gen. Santos City, Province of South Cotabato. Southeast side of Compound Road, extending southward to another Compound Road.	Industrial Land	5,000	800,000	May 26, 2011 10:00 a.m.	Office of the Clerk of Court and Ex-Officio Provincial Sheriff, Regional Trial Court, Hall of Justice, Lagao, General Santos City

All properties are to be sold on "As-is, Where-is" basis. Interested bidders are advised to conduct an independent evaluation of the property through title verification and investigation of the physical and legal condition of the property prior to the auction dates.

For further information, please contact us at (02) 851-7277 or send an email to: foreclosedproperties@mingcorpgain.com

PROPERTIES FOR FORECLOSURE AUCTION

Our Group of Companies invites everyone to bid at the public auctions for the foreclosure sale of the following properties:

TCT No.	Location	Type	Land Area sq.m. (more or less)	Intended Mortgagee Bid (Php)	Date and Time of Auction	Place of Auction
5,111 Titles	Located within Mamanwitin Homes 2, Brgy. San Juan, Municipality of San Miguel, Province of Bulacan. The site is approximately 300 meters west from San Juan Brgy. Chapel, some 600 meters southeast from the corner of Municipal and Mapanoyoy Roads in the vicinity of San Miguel Municipal Hall.	Residential Land	various	10,000,000	May 26, 2011 09:00 a.m.	In front of the Office Ex-Officio Sheriff of Bulacan

Subdivision Gate

Phase 3A

Phase 3B

Phase 3C

Vicinity Map

All properties are to be sold on "As-is, Where-is" basis. Interested bidders are advised to conduct an independent evaluation of the property through title verification and investigation of the physical and legal condition of the property prior to the auction dates.

For further information, please contact us at (02) 851-7300 or send an email to: foreclosedproperties@mingcorpgain.com

33rd APDC to feature world-renowned medical specialists on May 4 and 6

Dr. Sitoris

Dr. Jose

Dr. Feliciano

Dr. Lizarga

Dr. Camporazas

THE 33RD ASIA PACIFIC DENTAL CONgress (APDC), set May 1-4 at the Philippine International Convention Center in Pasay City, will focus on in-depth look at the interrelationship between dentistry and the medical specialties with the theme "Total Oral Health: Intersection of Medicine and Dentistry."

Leading medical specialists on May 6.

Dr. Hermogenes P. Villarosa, APDC General Chairman and incoming President of the Asia Pacific Dental Federation for 2011-2012, said the May 4 lectures will feature Dr. Antonio Sitoris, head of the Department of Preventive Cardiology at St. Luke's Heart Institute, and Dr. Corazon Echevarria-Jose, a multi-awarded economic surgeon and President of the Philippine Society of Colorectal Surgery.

Dr. Sitoris will talk on the importance of proper screening for the presence of cardiac diseases in dental patients as it is important that 15 to 44% of dental patients admitted with oral emergencies in any given year. Ordering dentists to be adequately equipped with knowledge on how to handle medical emergencies including cardiovascular conditions, Dr. Sitoris will also tackle which drugs should be available and the importance of having them in the dental office.

Dr. Jose, on the other hand, is an oncologist-dentist specializing in the management of the more prevalent oral cancers available to that they can work closely with the surgeon, will discuss the most common non-surgical procedures such as dentofacial prosthesis and maxillofacial prosthesis as well as dental implants and dentistry's increasing role in cancer surgery.

The Medical Specialties Symposium on May 6 will feature four speakers, Dr. Benedicto Francis Feliciano, Chief of Surgery, Section of Orthopaedic, Cardinal Santos Medical Center. Dr. Amado Feliciano, Dr. Augusto Lizarga, and Dr. Benjamin Camporazas. Chairman of the Department of Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery at St. Luke's Medical Center Global City. Dr. Feliciano, in his lecture, "Occupational Hazards in Operation Theaters" will tackle the prevention of musculoskeletal injuries that dentists are prone to. Dr. Feliciano of the Asian Eye Institute and one of the most active specialists in his country, will discuss the Endoscopic Endonasal Approach to Orbital Tumors. Dr. Lizarga, currently the President of the Philippine Cardiac Electrophysiology Society, a Professor Emeritus of the University of the Philippines College of Medicine and Consultant of Philippine General Hospital, Makati Medical Center and Manila Doctor's Hospital, will one of the most prominent endocrinologists in the country, will tackle endocrine disturbances, disorders of the thyroid, parathyroid and adrenal glands. These stems from dental procedures associated with these conditions which complicate dental treatment, a topic very useful for dental practitioners who often encounter patients who endocrine disorders which often times go undiagnosed. Dr. Camporazas of the Ear, Nose, Throat Laboratory of ours, sinus, throat, which are not anatomical neighbors, and dentistry. His lectures will focus on the necessity of close consultation between these two specialties to provide the patient with the best treatment possible.

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DR. FAUL C. FERNANDEZ
January 1, 1930 - March 9, 2011

Thank you for your prayers and expressions of sympathy during our time of sorrow.

Your shared thoughts and memories of our dear Kuya provided us with strength and support particularly in the hours of our loss [illegible]

The Hernandez Family
Edna "Baby" Cruz-Hernandez
Ma. Teresa "Tibanca" Hernandez and James D. Jaquilin and Camille
Raul "Boy" Hernandez, II
Raul "Ejay" Hernandez, III and Jennifer Muller
Raul "Raul" II, and Sean "Bay" V

Our Dearest Beloved

Engr. Pastor Buñing Esguerra Jr.

"Baby"

Now rest in the infinite warmth and embrace of our Lord. He peacefully joined our Creator on the 28th day of April 2011 at the age of 80.

His loving spouse, Ada, children, Lee-Bhaba, Rolando(†) Shirley, Oscar-Veronica, Charlie-Dina, Grace-Ed, Ted-Alex, Tobby, grandchildren and great grandson request the prayer readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in the St. Elizabeth Hall, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Shrine Parish, New Manila, Quezon City.

Interments will be on Sunday, May 1, 2011 at the Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina after the 2 p.m. mass.

DR. FELISA DUMLAO FERNANDEZ

November 1, 1936 – May 1, 2010

"I am leaving you with a gift ... peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don't be troubled or afraid."
— John 14:27

Thank you Mommy Lola for your unconditional love, for touching the lives of so many people, for making us realize that we will all be together in the hereafter ... Happy Mother's Day, Mommy.

Your sincere Mr. Mommy Lola's First Death Anniversary will be deeply appreciated.

NICANOR B. CALLAÑGA, JR.

of Bangued, Abra

Peacefully joined his Creator on April 24, 2011 (Sunday).

His beloved wife: Sabs Bocaco-Callaga; children: Charmaine Sara; Christine Karen - Jun Roxzan; John Ronley; Rolly - Fiona; Geraldine - Toti; Richard - Margie; Ronald - Tina; and grandchildren, mother - Maura; nephews & nieces, brother Edwin - Conseso; sister - Elizabeth - Mike B. Abbo - Binanbang request the prayer readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie at Loyola Memorial Chapel Q. Guadalupe, Makati along EDSA.

Interment will be on Tuesday, May 03, 2011 at Holy Cross Cemetery, Novaliches, Quezon City after the 8:00 am Mass at Loyola Chapel.

COL. RAMON LLANES QUERUBIN

Died on April 28, 2011 at the age of 94.

He is survived by his children: **Rolando** & **Edith**, **Roberto** & **Shirley**, **Rachel** & **Hojar**, **Consejo**, **Milagros** & grandchildren.

His body lies in state at St. Peter Memorial Chapel, Commonwealth Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be on May 7, 2011 at Everest Hill, Muntinlupa.

"Even when I walk through a dark valley, I feel no harm. For you are at my side, your rod and staff give me courage..."
Psalm 23:4

In Fond Love...
As Fervently Remembered
by Tido Mabel

In Memory of

Pacita Castro Arellano

January 28, 1941 - March 23, 2011

on the 40th Day of her return to Eternal Life

Mass will be offered on May 1, 2011 in the following:

San Sebastian Church, Pasig City ..... 6:00 a.m.
The Immaculate Conception Cathedral, Pasig City ..... 6:00 a.m.
Sr. Pto of Florencia Chapel, Ruperthouse, QC ..... 5:30 p.m.
Immaculate San Antonio Parish, Makati City ..... 6:00 p.m.
St. Joseph's Church, Kamuning, NY, USA ..... 7:00 a.m.

Her bereaved husband Ben, children Kevin & Christy - Rachie & Anna, Bubbles & Gandie, grandchildren Steff, Lance, Sam and Pia, sisters and brother - Cristi, Lily - Nicky - Jojo and Tony, wish to express their heartfelt gratitude and sincerest appreciation to all those who offered Masses and prayers, sent flowers and messages of sympathy and who rendered and contributed their in their moment of grief.

The Society of the Divine Word Philippines announces with great sorrow the demise of

FR. ERASIO PATLINGRAO FLORES SVD

of Dumanjug Cebu

December 2, 1935 – April 28, 2011

Former missionary to Mindoro, Spain, Germany and former member of SVD General Council – Rome, Italy

His body lies in state at the Villa Cristo Rey Christ the King Seminary E. Rodriguez Sr. Blvd., Q.C.

Interment will be on May 2, 2011 – Monday after the 5:00 P.M. Mass of the Resurrection at the Shrine of The Divine Word.

FELIX "JUN" T. AMANTE, JR.

of Bambad City and Pura-Baguio City

Peacefully joined his Creator on April 30, 2011 at the age of 54.

His remains lie in state at La Funeraria Paz - Sucat, inside Manila Memorial Park, Parañaque City until May 03, 2011.

His family requests the prayer readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

Helen B. Manalo

[illegible]

Thank you for the memories that you have shared with us during the time of grief and in remembering our beloved

PILAR DIZON ZABALA

(October 24, 1925 - April 18, 2011)

Our deepest gratitude for all those who offered masses, for prayers, sent flowers, donations, goods and for your sympathy.

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."
(2 Timothy 4)

CLASSIFIEDS

Vice President Binay to keynote 32nd National Confab of Employers

VICE PRESIDENT JEJOMAR BINAY IS EXPECTED TO focus on pressing issues that affect stakeholders in the archipelago given the present situation in the global economy and the need to keep businesses afloat and generate jobs for the unemployed, now graduates and displaced overseas Filipino workers (OFWs).

Employers nationwide are eagerly awaiting the pronouncements to be made by the country's second highest public official as he sets the tone of the Conference by way of his keynote address to delegates to the 32nd National Conference of Employers' (NCE-32) organized by the Employers Confederation of the Philippines (ECOP). NCE-32 is hosted by Jessie B. Tanda.

Through the National Conference, ECOP, under the leadership of Edgardo G. Lanzon, will spark discussions on issues that pose challenges to Philippine businesses. Some of employers' urgent concerns are job creation, labor law reforms and greening businesses.

To be held on May 4-6, 2011 at the Marriott Hotel, this year's National Conference on the theme, "Tripartism and Employment: The Only Way" will also harp on employers' support to government's thrust of promoting public-private partnership. Among the major sponsors of the National Conference are SM Investments Corp., Megaworld Corp., Metropolitan Bank and Trust Co., Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corp., PHILEXPORT, Philippine Exporters Confederation, Inc. (Philexport), Jollibee Food Corp., Social Security System (SSS), Pag-IBIG Fund, Rizal Commercial Banking Corp., Wallem Group of Companies, ECOT Colleges, Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI), Philippine Association of Local Service Contractors, Inc. (PALSCON), Philippine Chamber of Commerce, Toyota Motor Phils., BDO Maritime Corp., PLDT-SMC, GMCS Motors, Inc., San Miguel Corp., Subdivision and Housing Developers Association, Inc., Safe Seas Shipping Co., Inc., and Bearen Environmental Management Systems. The Conference media partners are Manila Bulletin, Philippine Daily Inquirer, and BusinessWorld.

Year 2011 is fraught with numerous challenges to the Aquino administration amid developments unfolding in the global landscape and the industrial relations arena. Employers, for their part, remain vigilant in upholding, promoting and maintaining sound industrial relations and advocating for harmonious labor-management relations.

The National Conference of Employers is gearing it to come up with concrete and comprehensive position vis-a-vis matters of national importance that affect employers, in relation with its social partners and the business environment in general.

Among the topics of this year's Conference plenary sessions are "Sustaining Growth and Employment," "Growth Through Labor Market Reforms," "Emerging Global Best Practices," "Towards a More Pro-active Legislative Labor Agenda," and "Business Development and Bureaucracy."

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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
Eastern Visayas Regional Medical Center
CATARMAN, NORTHERN SAMAR

INVITATION TO BID FOR

Supply of Goods (Medical and Laboratory Equipment)

1. The Catarman Regional Medical Center, through the General Appropriations Act and/or continuing appropriations, intends to apply the sum stated hereunder being the total ABC to payments under the contract for the Supply of Goods (Medical and Laboratory Equipment). Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at bid opening.
2. The Catarman Regional Medical Center now invites bids for Supply of Goods (Medical and Laboratory Equipment). All items must be delivered within 30 days from receipt of Notice to Proceed. Bidders should have completed, within 5 years from the date of submission and receipt of bids, a contract similar to the Project. The description of an eligible bidder is contained in the Bidding Documents, particularly, in Section II. Instructions to Bidders.
3. Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary "pass/fail" criterion as specified in the Revised Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act (RA) 9184, otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act". Bidding is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, cooperatives, or organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines and to suppliers of a country that gives reciprocal rights or privileges to citizens and manufacturers of the Philippines as mentioned in RA 9184 and its corresponding IRR.
4. Interested bidders may obtain further information from **Rolando Magdasal and Alberto Ybañez** and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below during office hours.
5. A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders from the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee for the Bidding Documents in the amount of **Five Thousand Pesos (P5,000.00)**. The Bidding Documents may also be downloaded free of charge from the website of the Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System (PhilGEPS) and the website of the Catarman Regional Medical Center, provided that bidders shall pay the non-refundable fee for the Bidding Documents not later than the submission of their bids.
6. The Catarman Regional Medical Center reserves the right to reject any and all bids, declare a failure of bidding, or not award the contract at any time prior to contract award in accordance with Section 41 of RA 9184 and its IRR, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.
7. For further information, please refer to:

MARIVIC E. MARIÑAS
Head, BAC Secretariat
Catarman Regional Medical Center
Tel. Nos. 48-512-9405 / 48-512-9406 (CMC Building, Office of Administrative Officer)
Fax Nos. 48-512-9405 / 48-512-9406 (CMC Building, Office of the OIC/CP, 24 hours only)
E-mail: crmcbac@yahoo.com; crmc@mirus.com

(signed)
MARIA L. SAN BUENAVENTURA, MD, MPH
Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee

(CRN – May 1, 2011)

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
NUTRITION ACTION COUNCIL
NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL
NNC Compound, Upper Bicutan
Taguig City

Request for Expression of Interest for Hiring of Media Consultant to Develop a Nutrition Campaign Strategy Based on Non-Nutrition Approach in a Leading Media Station

1. The Nutrition Action Council, through the NNC-CHD Central Office, intends to engage the services of a media consultant to develop a media campaign on Non-Nutrition, and the NNC Group is inviting eligible consultants to indicate their interest in providing the services. The duration of the contract is from May 2011 to 7 July 2011. Applicants may be asked to submit a proposal.
2. Interested consultants must submit their Expression of Interest to the Secretariat of the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) at the address below on or before 10 May 2011, 5:00 p.m. Expressions of interest received after the deadline will not be considered.
3. Consultants shall be selected in accordance with Republic Act 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations, using the Quality Cost Based Selection (QCBS) procedure.
4. Interested consultants may obtain further information from the Secretariat of the BAC and inspect the Terms of Reference at the address given below during office hours from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
5. Qualified consultants will be shortlisted based on the following criteria:
   a. Experience and Reputation (30%)
   b. Methodology (40%)
   c. Key Personnel (30%)
6. The NNC reserves the right to accept or reject any Expression of Interest, declare a failure of bidding, or not award the contract at any time without thereby incurring any liability to the affected consultant or consultants.

Secretariat, Bids and Awards Committee
National Nutrition Council
NNC Compound, Upper Bicutan
Taguig City
Tel. No. 837-2071 local 2102
Fax No. 837-2071 local 2102
E-mail: nnc_bac@yahoo.com

(signed)
ATTY. ANNA LIZA M. ESCUETA
Chairperson, Bids and Awards Committee

(CRN – May 1, 2011)

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
Regional Health Office No. VI
SAN JOSE DE BUENAVISTA REGIONAL HOSPITAL
(Formerly Iloilo Regional Hospital)
City of Iloilo

Invitation to Bid for Replacement of Main Building Roofing, Completion of Renovation of Old Surgical Wards and Replacement of Existing Roofing, Section, Renovation of Wards of OB-Gyne/Pedia Building

1. The GOVERNMENT OWNED AND CONTROLLED HOSPITAL, now inviting bids for Replacement of Main Building Roofing, Completion of Renovation of Old Surgical Wards and Replacement of Existing Roofing, Section, Renovation of Wards of the Ob-Gyne/Pedia Building, Completion of the Works contract, (Two Hundred Fifty Days) 150 days. Bidders should have completed, within five (5) years from the date of submission and receipt of bids, a contract similar to the Project. The description of an eligible bidder is contained in the Bidding Documents, particularly, in Section II. Instructions to Bidders.
2. Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary "pass/fail" criterion as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act (RA) 9184, otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act".
   Bidding is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, partnerships, or organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines.
3. Interested bidders may obtain further information from **GOVERNOR GUILLERMO L. CARLOS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL BAC Chairman, ROMULO B. PUGARIN, MD, MPH** from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
4. A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders from the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee for the amount of **FIVE THOUSAND PESOS (P5,000.00)**. The Bidding Documents may also be downloaded free of charge from the website of the Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System (PhilGEPS) and the website of the Procuring Entity, provided that bidders shall pay the non-refundable fee for the Bidding Documents not later than the submission of their bids.
5. The GOVERNMENT OWNED AND CONTROLLED HOSPITAL reserves the right to reject any and all bids, declare a failure of bidding, or not award the contract at any time prior to contract award in accordance with Section 41 of RA 9184 and its IRR, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.
6. For further information, please refer to:

Veronica G. Pizarras, MD, MPH
Head Bidding Officer
Governor Guillermo Gallares Memorial Hospital
Miguel Parras St., Tagbilaran City
Tel. No. (038) 411-2468 / (038) 411-2665; (038) 501-8705 loc. 101/105
Fax No. (038) 411-2665
E-mail address: bac.pgcgmh@yahoo.com

(signed)
VERONICA G. PIZARRAS, MD, MPH
BAC Chairman

(CRN – May 1, 2011)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

This is to inform the public that **JOSEPHINE ESCUDERO** and **MIKE MANALO** whose pictures appear above are no longer connected with Gardenia By Sanders Inc.

All transactions made or entered by Josephine Escudero and Mike Manalo will no longer be honored by Gardenia By Sanders Inc. For any inquiries, kindly contact Telephone Nos. 8965484 / 7283271

(CRN – May 1, 2011)

ATTENTION:
Gardenia Endorsers

Mike John Ilar

- ☒ pots for sale
- ☒ products for sale
- ☒ house for sale
- ☒ apartment for rent

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

This is to inform the public that **MARK ANTHONY L. SY**, whose picture appear above is no longer connected with **LANDLITE PHILIPPINES CORPORATION** effective date 8 June 2010. Any transaction made or entered by him, will no longer be honored by **LANDLITE PHILIPPINES CORPORATION**.

(CRN – May 1, 2011)

Sicat joins PEZA Hall of Fame as outstanding employer

MANILA, JUNE 08, 2010 – The Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA) has inducted Sicat Enterprises Inc. (SEI) as a Hall of Fame Outstanding Employer awardee of the Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA).

Sicat has been named PEZA's outstanding employer in 2005, 2006 and 2008.

Sicat received the PEZA Hall of Fame award on March 31, 2011 at the World Trade Center, Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Pasay City from President Benigno "Noynoy" Aquino II., PEZA Director General Lilia De Lima, Philippine Economic Zone and Industry Secretary Gregory C. Domingo.

"It's a great honor to receive the award," said Sicat Asia Maritime Senior Vice President Manager for Asia Pacific Steve Santos. "We are humbled and grateful to be in the company of other awardees and to be part of the PEZA family. We are committed to continuously improve our people and our processes to provide our customers with the best service."

The Outstanding Employer Awards is given to a PEZA locator that generates the most economic values, has a high regard for the welfare of its employees, and maintained harmony between labor and management.

SEI Philippines aims to be the preferred employer by providing voluntarily realistic to the Philippine workforce. Encouraging even the industry to providing the best work opportunity and benefits are extended to employees' dependents, free of charge. Sicat associate enjoy health, life, bereavement, retirement and accident insurance plans. As the only rail center that provides bereavement assistance to workers and their family members (immediate family members, regardless of income status).

SEI has the industry's first in house and official physician, SEI Pharmacy, which provides discounted medicines and consultations. SEI shares with registered medical staff in clinics, also emergency services, free medicines and medical advice. Another industry first is Sicat Baby's Home, a place for workers to breast-feed, nurture their short Rail-Transit (SRT).

Besides the PEZA award, SEI Philippines has been selected as finalist in the big category of the 9th Philippine Quality Awards (PQA) and Philippine Quality Award Grand Prize in 2011. The SEI Company is the first rail transportation company in the country to be awarded with the ISO 9001:2008 Quality Management System.

The SEI International CO Awards Initiative (Batch 2), SEI I was jointly organized by the Canadian Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines and Business Processing Association of the Philippines, the umbrella organization of BPO companies in the country.

The awards recognizes companies more than 100 employees. The committee go through stringent processes and profile checklists for each award category reviewed them to shortlists and companies that have made the biggest impact on their industry.

SEI Philippines won the top slot in 2009 as BPO Company of the Year and has been a consistent and strong contender in the next four years. The committee also cited SEI Philippines' contribution to the growth of the Philippine's position in the local BPO landscape as one of the most and winning the two consecutively defined workforce in the industry.

The organization's commitment to its employees, clients, and stakeholders has truly guided it to become an enduring entity in providing excellence in all levels of the organization.

SEI also was awarded in Pasig City, Quezon City, Makati City, and Baguio City and is now also expanding its operations in Manila and Cebu in 2011.

Photo shows (from left are: DTI Secretary Gregory L. Domingo, PEZA Director General Lilia De Lima, President Benigno "Noynoy" Aquino Jr., and Sicat Philippines General Manager for Asia Pacific Steve Santos.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

This is to inform the public that **JOSEPHINE ESCUDERO** and **MIKE MANALO** whose pictures appear above are no longer connected with Gardenia By Sanders Inc.

All transactions made or entered by Josephine Escudero and Mike Manalo will no longer be honored by Gardenia By Sanders Inc. For any inquiries, kindly contact Telephone Nos. 8965484 / 7283271

(CRN – May 1, 2011)

World Health Organization
Western Pacific Region

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
(Agreement for Performance of Work)

The Bulara, other Hemoglobinopathies and Parasitic Diseases Unit of the WHO Philippines Country Office is looking for an organization to institution which can provide:

1. Case studies on Burden and Development (BAD) in Against Jet Worm and conduct NNS training for key Department of Health (DOH) Community Health Development (CHD) and Local Government Units (LGUs) Managers

Detailed description of work:

A. FOR A CASE STUDY organization is requested to do a review of the WHO Field and Local Government Unit

(1) Organizing and leading a research team who will conduct case studies in Agusan del Norte. The team shall be responsible for the following tasks. (The case studies would be conducted in June 2011):
   a) Review of literature and documentation related to the topic;
   b) Review of case studies and documentation available in the health system;
   c) Review of the policies and implementation of health system in DOH and/or other related organizations;
   d) Conduct of interviews with key informants (e.g. Health Officials, Health Workers, Community Members) to collect information and data needed to answer the issues;
   e) Conduct of FGD sessions in the communities/areas to identify strategies and existing gaps;
   f) Analysis of collected information and data needed to answer the issues;
   g) Writing and developing training modules and outputs to guide implementation of malaria and neglected tropical diseases;
   h) Coordinating the DOH Central/Regional Office and in arranging the dates for adequate travel and training of respondents and other activities related to the conduct of the study; and
   i) Submitting and presenting the deliverables to concerned agencies and/or WHO upon completion.

(2) Assisting and coordinating with participants in conducting the training activities in the field;

(3) Assisting the participants in formulating recommendations to address gaps and in integrating/mainstreaming gender in the operations;

(4) Providing technical guidance to the participants in the training activities to ensure that the quality aspect is maintained;

(5) Preparing training and assessment reports of the activities conducted; and

(6) Other duties as may be assigned by the Head of Office of the WHO Country Office.

Deadline for submission of proposals by COB 10 May 2011

B. Inter-Regional Bureau Operations for 2011

Detailed description of work:

(1) Coordinate the activities of the different regions by and to meet its goals;

(2) Fund management, liquidation and submission of financial reports;

Deadline for submission of proposals by COB 9 May 2011

Proposal of non-commercial organizations:

(1) Objectives, approach and methodology, activities, team members, timelines and detailed budget;
(2) Organizational profile;
(3) Curriculum vitae of key personnel; and
(4) Evidence of good financial standing.

Technical and financial evaluation based on the criteria established. (Curriculum vitae and project proposals evaluated and should be presented to:

Dr. Jun Madrid
WHO Representative to the Philippines
Ground Floor, Building 6, Department of Health
San Lazaro Compound, Tayuman, Manila, Manila

Qualifications:

Organizations: The contractor must have at least 5 years experience in case studies and organizing training activities related to community health and health system strengthening.

Individuals: Graduate degree in Epidemiology or Master with working local networks are preferred. Satisfactory completion of similar tasks and low cost or ethical fee advantage.

(Monday's Jobs)

INVITATION TO BID

The **APP-Retirement and Separation Benefits System (APP-RSBS)** invites interested parties to purchase by way of sealed bids the following properties on cash basis with 5% amount of the selling price payable within thirty (30) days.

Block No.	Description	Location	Min. Floor Price
1	Residential lot (vacant lot with improvements) (lot no. 23,726 sqm.; lot no. 1,476 sqm.)	Lot 4-MRSH-1 Brgy. Rizal, Puerto A. Princesa, City, Palawan	₱ 3,510,000.00
2	Raw land (lot no. 20,249 sqm.)	Lot 1991, Sta. Rosa Estate, Sitio Road, Laguna Estate Development Corporation	₱ 10,000,000.00

Interested bidders may obtain bidding documents starting 3 May 2011 upon payment of non-refundable fee of ₱2,000.00 from the Marketing and Sales Division, 4/F APP-RSBS Building, 347 Quezon Ave., Quezon Metropolitan, Q.C. All bids must be accompanied by a bid deposit/guarantee in 20% of minimum floor price.

A pre-bidding conference is scheduled on 12 May 2011 at 10:00 a.m., Meeting Hall, 4/F APP-RSBS Building, 347 Quezon Ave., Quezon Metropolitan, Q.C. All bids must be accompanied by a bid deposit/guarantee in 20% of minimum floor price.

A pre-bidding conference is scheduled on 12 May 2011 at 10:00 a.m., Meeting Hall, 4/F APP-RSBS Building, 347 Quezon Ave., Quezon Metropolitan, Q.C. All bids must be accompanied by a bid deposit/guarantee in 20% of minimum floor price.

Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders or their representatives on 31 May 2011 at 10:00 a.m. at the same venue.

For inquiries, please call 410-0000 or fax at 412-0000 or 412-4000.

(sgd.) **ATTY. ANTONIO A. ANDRADE (RAB.)**
Chairman, Asset Bidding Committee

(CRN – May 1, 2011 & 08, 2011)

UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES LOS BAÑOS
College, Laguna 4031

BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE (BAC)
(Procurement of materials, equipment, and services)

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB) invites interested parties to apply for eligibility and to bid for the following projects:

Reference No.	Description	Approved Budget for the Contract (in PhP)	Approved Budget	Duration (in Days)
UPLB-2-2011-1-1	SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF ELEVATOR AT CHANCELLOR'S RESIDENCE	1,000,000.00	PHP 1,000,000.00	120 days

Interested parties may apply for eligibility and to bid for the above projects. The bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary "pass/fail" criterion as specified in the Revised Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act (RA) 9184, otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act".

Bidding is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, partnerships, or organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines.

Prospective bidders may obtain further information from the BAC Secretariat at the address given below during office hours from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested bidders from the address below upon payment of a non-refundable fee for the amount of **FIVE THOUSAND PESOS (P5,000.00)**. The Bidding Documents may also be downloaded free of charge from the website of the Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System (PhilGEPS) and the website of the University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB) (https://www.philgeps.gov.ph/UPLB), provided that bidders shall pay the non-refundable fee for the Bidding Documents not later than the submission of their bids. Bidders who downloaded the bidding documents are duly registered prospective bidders and are encouraged to inform the BAC Secretariat of their interest.

The schedule of bidding activities is as follows:

ACTIVITY/ACTIVITIES	DATE/S	PLACE
1. Issuance of the Documents	Until May 13, 2011 (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)	BAC Secretariat Office, UPLB Agriculture Road, Physical Plant Building
2. Submission of Eligibility Documents	May 13, 2011 (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)	BAC Secretariat Office, UPLB Agriculture Road, Physical Plant Building
3. Pre-Bid Conference	May 6, 2011 / 2:00 p.m.	BAC Secretariat Office, UPLB Agriculture Road, Physical Plant Building
4. Submission/Opening of Bids	May 20, 2011 / 2:00 p.m.	BAC Secretariat Office, UPLB Agriculture Road, Physical Plant Building

The UPLB reserves the right to reject any or all bids, declare a failure of bidding, without offering any reason, and not award the contract without incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders. Bidders are required to submit a valid Mayor's Permit and Tax Clearance. Bidders are required to submit a Bid Security in the form of a Bid Bond, Cashier's/Manager's Check, Bank Draft/Guarantee or Irrevocable Letter of Credit in the amount of at least two percent (2%) of the ABC. Bidders are required to submit a Performance Security in the form of a Performance Bond, Cashier's/Manager's Check, Bank Draft/Guarantee or Irrevocable Letter of Credit in the amount of at least five percent (5%) of the contract price.

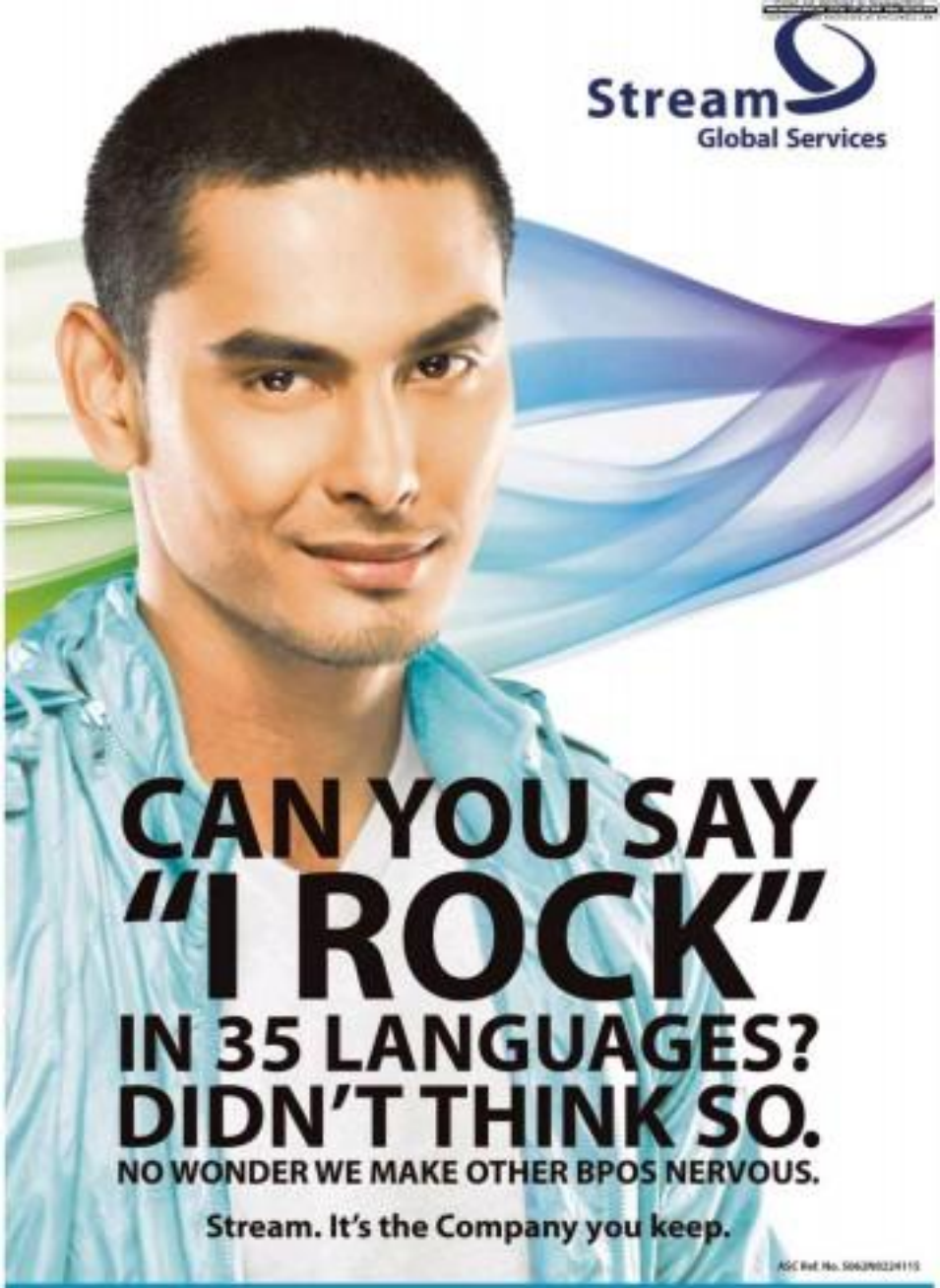
Bidders may be disqualified by the Bidding or Awards Committee for any of the grounds enumerated in Section 41 of RA 9184 and its IRR.

For more information, please refer to:

CELIA V. VILLANUEVA
Chairman, BAC Secretariat
UP Los Baños
Tel. No. (049) 536-2301 local 101
Fax No. (049) 536-2301 local 101
E-mail address: bac@uplb.edu.ph

(sgd.)
ATTY. ANTONIO A. ANDRADE (RAB.)
Chairman, Asset Bidding Committee

(CRN – May 1, 2011)



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Send to 2327 (Globe) | 0917 8902327 (Non-Globe)

WALK IN:
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Eastwood - 2F Cybermall Building Eastwood
Makati - 13/F PBCOM Tower, Ayala Avenue
North Edsa - G/F SM North Annex Edsa
Shaw - Upper G/F Worldwide Corporate Center, Shaw Blvd.

Non-Manila Sites
Cebu - G/F CJ Bldg., Asiatown IT Park Lahug
Clark - 2112-2113 C.P. Garcia Cor. Tanada St., Clark